

Gorilla tactics

Troops employ gimmick to help curb drunken driving incidents **Page 5**



Second chance

Embattled QB Vick signs one-year deal with Philadelphia **Back page**



Michael Vick

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AP

Taiwan rescue crews speed efforts in typhoon aftermath

Page 11

A rescuer carries two children to a helicopter to evacuate a flood-damaged area following Typhoon Morakot on Friday in southern Taiwan. Taiwanese relief workers struggled to rescue 1,900 villagers still stranded nearly a week after the devastating typhoon, and officials said as many as 400 people may have been buried in mudslides in the worst-hit village.

Hatley's sentence reduced

Soldier convicted of killing 4 Iraqis receives 40 years

BY SETH ROBSON
Stars and Stripes

GRAFENWÖHR, Germany — The life sentence of a U.S. soldier convicted for the execution-style killings of four bound and blindfolded Iraqi detainees has been reduced to 40 years, military officials announced Friday.

Col. Charles A. Preysler, acting commander of the Joint Multinational Training Command, reduced the sentence of Master Sgt. John Hatley, 41, last week without comment.



Hatley

In April, a military jury convicted Hatley of premeditated murder and conspiracy to commit premeditated murder for the 2007 killings near Baghdad. According to evidence and testimony presented at Hatley's trial, the Iraqis were taken into custody after an exchange of fire with Hatley's unit, although there wasn't enough evidence to hold them for attacking the unit.

SEE HATLEY ON PAGE 2

Footprint of future: Offshore sea bases

BY ERIK SLAVIN
Stars and Stripes

Aug. 15, 2019 — Typhoon Kaito ravages a foreign country. Hundreds of thousands are left homeless and hungry.

The nation desperately needs humanitarian supplies and services, but a tense political situation rules out a large U.S. military base of operations on shore.

The storm obliterates the ports, making traditional supply offloading impossible.

Forty miles out in the ocean, the U.S. military sets up a floating base with 14 ships and thousands of troops.

Amphibious landing craft and helicopters deliver food, water, trucks and more — all of it pre-sorted

at sea.

A few weeks later, the mission is complete and the base simply sails away.

This imagined humanitarian scenario might one day be possible if the U.S. Navy completes its plans to establish futuristic floating bases at sea.

Today's ships can get thousands of troops and supplies to shore for war pre-positioning and humanitarian aid efforts, but not without creating a giant footprint that could serve as a magnet for local opposition to the United States.

The solution heralded by the top brass at the Navy and Marine Corps — and even among a few in the Army — is to place most of that footprint in the ocean with "sea bases."

SEE BASES ON PAGE 3



The USNS Lewis and Clark refuels the British Royal Navy's mine hunter HMS Ramsey. Cargo ships like the Lewis and Clark, built with the ability to selectively offload cargo, are crucial to the military's vision of maintaining offshore sea bases during foreign emergencies.

Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"This woman is just walking like this, super slow, completely on fire. You couldn't see nothing but fire."

—Jose Morales, 24, on witnessing a woman set herself on fire and then walk around a Miami mall on Thursday.

See story on Page 15

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COMING TOMORROW

Science & Medicine

Ailing animal?
Maybe Spot
should try
stem cells



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Air Force may buzz Afghan enemy

Avoiding bomb use aimed at building local support for war

By SUSANNE M. SCHAFER
The Associated Press

SHAW AIR FORCE BASE, S.C. — A new military approach in Afghanistan may mean buzzing rather than bombing the enemy, according to the general taking over the air war there.

It's known as irregular warfare, designed to protect local people and then enlist their help defeating Taliban insurgents, Air Force Lt. Gen. Gilmary Hostage said Thursday.

"The first thing we do is fly over head, and the bad guys know air-



power is in place and oftentimes that's enough. That ends the fight; they yamoos," said Hostage, who will direct the air battle over Iraq and Afghanistan. "The A-10 has a very distinct sound. The cannon on an A-10 is horrifically capable and our adversaries know it. When they hear the sound of an A-10, they scatter."

Hostage says the Air Force can easily drop bombs with pinpoint accuracy.

But in some cases, it may be better to fly over enemy forces with noisy warplanes to get them to disperse first, then try more force if that doesn't work.

Hostage said he supports the new U.S. commander in Af-

ghanistan, Army Gen. Stanley McChrystal, who is shifting the philosophy toward irregular warfare.

CHAD STROHMEYER/
Courtesy of the
U.S. Air Force

ghanistan, Army Gen. Stanley McChrystal, who is shifting the philosophy toward irregular warfare.

"The challenge with irregular warfare is to empower and enable the people to the point where they don't allow the adversary to hide in amongst them," Hostage said. "It really is a long-term effort."

Hatley: Soldier is third to be granted clemency in case

HATLEY, FROM PAGE 1

Later that night, the detainees were bound, blindfolded and shot before their bodies were dumped into a canal near Baghdad.

The Army did not specify when Hatley will be eligible for parole. The former senior NCO will be dishonorably discharged and reduced in rank to private.

No Iraqi officials were available Friday to comment on the reduction of Hatley's sentence.

Hatley is the third soldier implicated in the killings to be granted clemency. In June, JMTC's then-commander, Brig. Gen. David R. Hogg, reduced the sentences of Sgt. Michael Leahy Jr. and Sgt. 1st Class Joseph P. Mayo to 20 years in prison.

Leahy was initially sentenced to life in prison while Mayo, who had pleaded guilty to premeditated murder and conspiracy to commit premeditated murder, had received a 35-year sentence under a pretrial agreement. Both men are now eligible for parole in

seven years.

All three cases are continuing through the appellate process, of officials said.

Members of Hatley's unit — from the Germany-based Company A, 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment, 2nd "Dagger" Brigade — testified during his court-martial that the killings were committed out of frustration, partly due to the release of several other Iraqi detainees who were believed responsible for the deaths of some soldiers in the unit.

During the court-martial, Capt. John Riesenbergs, assistant government trial counsel, told the jury members that their sentence should be aimed at stopping other soldiers from committing similar crimes.

"Send a message to the world that this is an army that recognizes that it is different, that American soldiers just don't do this," Riesenbergs said. "They don't execute detainees in the middle of the night by shooting them in the back of the head when they are

bound and blindfolded and dump their bodies in a canal."

It was Hatley's idea to kill the detainees, Riesenbergs said during the trial.

"A first sergeant in the U.S. Army came up with the idea to commit a brutal execution-style murder of detainees and he did it with his own men," Riesenbergs said. "He failed them, the Army, the Iraqi people and the American war effort."

Despite the verdict, former Company A members have remained loyal to Hatley and the other two soldiers convicted in the killings.

In Diwaniyah, Iraq, Staff Sgt. Clifford Gabriel, 30, of Pen Argyl, Pa., a former member of Company A who testified at Hatley's trial in Vilseck, Germany, said the convictions were fair but that they don't change his view of his former comrades.

"Hatley is a great leader and a great soldier," Gabriel said last month. "If he was back on active duty, I would go anywhere with him."

him."

Another former Company A soldier, Sgt. Nicolas Diaz, 31, of Patterson, N.J., described Hatley as a father figure to his men who was deeply affected by the death of six of his soldiers in Baghdad.

"I understand how he felt and the reason why he did it (killed the detainees)," Diaz said. "It was pretty traumatic for many of us, losing really close friends."

Preysler's decision will allow Hatley's wife, Kim, to maintain some of her military benefits while the appeals process continues, officials said.

Reached via e-mail on Friday, Kim Hatley said she was "disappointed" with the decision.

"Please note that these alleged detainees were indeed [insurgents]," she wrote. "Insurgents kill and maim our American soldiers in the most horrific ways. If anyone views my husband's sentence with indifference, then they are un-American."

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Bases: Supplies, troops, vehicles could be ready at any moment

BASES, FROM PAGE 1

"When you have less boots on ground for logistic forces, you have less resentment for American forces," said Robert Button, a Rand Corporation senior analyst, who has explored seabasing capabilities in Defense Department-backed studies.

Seabasing isn't a new idea. Aircraft carriers function like floating bases, and cargo ships have long positioned themselves offshore to support land operations.

However, the Navy's seabasing concept is on a grander yet more efficient scale, and the service says it's critical to its 21st-century vision.

The self-contained sea base squadron, a concept known as the Maritime Prepositioning Force (Future), could carry several dozen helicopters, thousands of trucks and all the armored vehicles found in a Marine or Army brigade.

It also would carry millions of square feet in supplies and berthing for thousands of troops.

The ships could then seamlessly transfer troops and supplies to amphibious landing craft, or send them to shore on helicopters.

Most importantly, if less glamorous, the sea base's ships could use recently developed technology to sort through tons of supplies at sea and deliver custom supply packages to shore in a fraction of the time it takes now.

Officials say the full vision won't be realized until at least sometime during the next decade, and some technological challenges remain.

In the meantime, some of the required pieces are rolling off assembly lines and entering the fleet right now.

Putting the pieces together

A future sea base squadron and its 14-odd ships — including flight decks, cargo holds and amphibious landing craft — would set up 30 to 125 miles offshore and then deploy and sustain thousands of Marine expeditionary brigade troops, complete with heavy-armored vehicles and rotary aircraft.

In its top-shelf version, Button said, it would include three amphibious assault ships that function as helicopter carriers.

They would carry about 40 helicopters and 48 tilt-rotor Osprey aircraft.

The assault ships also can produce 200,000 gallons of water per day and store double that amount to sustain troops.

Cargo ships play the next crucial role, one type of which represents the biggest technological leap available today.

The Lewis and Clark-class T-AKE ship, several of which have been delivered already to the Navy's Military Sealift Command, has eased the logistical nightmare of sorting through tons of cargo.

Most Navy ships are "dense-packed," meaning cargo is stuffed as tightly as possible. It can be unloaded only in the reverse order it was packed. If troops need that first crate, they might have to wait a few weeks for all of the crates to be offloaded at a port.

The T-AKE can eliminate that wait by using automated crate selection, said Jim Strock, director of the seabasing integration division at the Marine Corps Combat Development Command, at Quantico, Va.

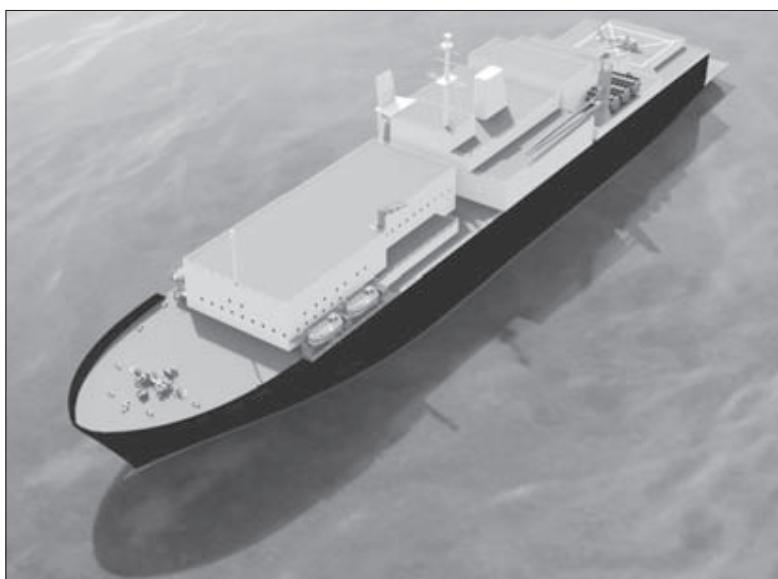
The T-AKE can hold more than a million gallons of oil and has about 900,000 cubic feet of cargo capacity.

The future sea base squadron would include three of these ships. It would also include two older cargo ships capable of rolling cargo off ramps to smaller ships.



Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

The USNS Watkins unloads cargo to the Mighty Servant 1 in this 2005 photo. The Navy has used ships like the Watkins and Mighty Servant in conceptual tests for its future seabasing plans. The cargo ships would roll their cargo onto Mobile Landing Platform ships, which would have semi-submersible hulls like the Mighty Servant, but also include berthing, a flight deck and room for amphibious landing craft.



COURTESY OF NASSCO/General Dynamics

The Mobile Landing Platform, which is still in the design phase, is a crucial piece in fulfilling the military's vision of seabasing. It could include a helicopter landing area, berthing for hundreds of troops and attachments for amphibious landing craft that would send troops and supplies ashore. It would also act as a bridge between the cargo vessels and the landing craft.

The older ships would be retrofitted to carry roughly 202,000 tons of cargo and berthing for 850 troops each, according to a 2007 study by the Rand National Defense Research Institute.

However, they would also need a new system to allow them to select crates like the newer ships, and one Florida-based engineering contractor wants to install such a system.

BEC Industries already has sea-tested its GRID system, which uses multiple, computer-controlled bridge cranes that work in concert to collect and drop containers.

Brian Pfeifer, the company's director of engineering, points to an episode during the first Gulf War as an example of the value of selective offloading.

When a cargo ship couldn't dock in port during the war, it had to sort out 500 crates among the 2,500 it had dense-packed at sea. It took them 30 days to sort the right crates, Pfeifer said.

"This system could do it in about a day," he said.

The challenges ahead

One of the reasons why the future sea base squadron isn't sailing today is that one of its most important ships hasn't had a single piece of metal cut yet.

The Mobile Landing Platform ship will

act as the bridge between the behemoth cargo ships remaining at sea and the ships and landing craft bringing troops and supplies to shore. The ship's design contract was awarded through the Naval Sea Systems Command in February.

"The Mobile Landing Platform is the game-changer in the ability to get gear off," said Strock, a retired Marine colonel.

As theorized, the ship would have a long, flat platform with ramps running to the cargo ships. Cargo could be dropped by crane or transported across the ramps.

The Mobile Landing Platform would also include berthing for troops and landing space for helicopters. And the platform ship would be able to deploy Marine Corps air-cushion landing craft, which are hovercraft capable of beach landings. Depending on the final design, it might be able to accommodate a new high-speed troop carrier that the Army and Navy are jointly developing for shore landings.

The Mobile Landing Platform is expected to have an advanced counter-ballasting system that shifts the boat's weight in reaction to wind and waves, Button said.

However, different ships react differently to rough seas, and even if the ships coordinate perfectly, rough seas will probably rule out seabasing in some parts of the world.

Nevertheless, sea base supporters say

Study envisions Army brigades using sea base

If the Army wants to be a part of the future sea base sometime in the next decade, it should be thinking about compatibility issues now, experts say.

At the Defense Department's request, Rand Corporation senior analyst Robert Button and four others were commissioned in 2007 to study whether a sea base could sustain an Army brigade.

An Army Stryker or heavy brigade, carrying 15,000 to 20,000 tons of supplies and equipment, could be deployed in two to six days from a sea base under the right conditions, Button said.

However, several impediments to Army participation remain.

Army helicopters don't have the braking systems and collapsible blades needed for landing on decks crowded with Navy and Marine aircraft, nor are they built to land on metal decks repeatedly.

Army pilots would need to learn to land on ships, and Army drivers would need training on driving around sea-based ramps.

Another issue is that a jointly conceived high-speed amphibious vessel comparable to the Navy-Marine hovercraft hasn't been built yet and would have to fit the landing platform ships.

"I've met some Army officers who think this is a terrific idea," Button said. "Others in the Army think other problems have a far greater urgency."

— Erik Slavin

the potential advantages outweigh the challenges — challenges they believe technology will minimize.

"When we did Desert Storm, we spent months building up supplies on the shore, and we couldn't do anything until we were done offloading the supplies and equipment," Button said. "With a capable seabasing force, you dispose of the iron-mountain pileup, and you're ready to go immediately."

When the advantage of speed is considered alongside the current geopolitical environment — when the U.S. must sometimes argue over base use, as it did in Kyrgyzstan — a base over the horizon that can leave without a trace is needed, experts contend.

"First and foremost," Strock said, "we want to be able step lightly when it comes to our allies and partners."

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JON M. FLETCHER, THE (JACKSONVILLE) FLORIDA TIMES-UNION/AP

Thousands turn out Friday to pay their respects to Capt. Michael Scott Speicher as his funeral procession makes its way past the Veterans Memorial Wall in Jacksonville, Fla. Speicher was missing in action for the past 18 years after his fighter jet was shot down during Operation Desert Storm.

Thousands gather to pay final tribute to Speicher

BY RON WORD
The Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Thousands of people lined the streets for the funeral procession of Gulf War Navy pilot Michael Scott Speicher, whose remains were discovered in Iraq and returned home to Florida 18 years after his plane was shot down.

A hearse carried the flag-draped casket to a monument for war veterans, where military officials, Gov. Charlie Crist and the Jacksonville mayor spoke. Several players and the coach of the National Football League's Jacksonville Jaguars joined hundreds at the Memorial Wall, and the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office fired a 21-gun salute.

Speicher's F/A-18 Hornet was downed on the first night of the 1991 Gulf War, but his remains were not discovered until earlier this month.

The procession passed places important in Speicher's life, including the church where he taught Sunday school and the high school where he excelled at swimming and tennis.

Speicher graduated from Florida State University in 1980 with a business administration degree. The school's \$1.2 million Scott Speicher Tennis Complex was dedicated in 1993.

"Michael Scott Speicher paid the ultimate price for our freedom," Jacksonville Mayor John Peyton said.

For nearly two decades after the 33-year-old Speicher disappeared over the Iraq desert, his family pushed the Defense De-

"I'm here to recognize the sacrifice this young Navy officer gave to this country and the pain his family has endured for the last 18 years. I just got back from Iraq four months ago and I just wanted my family to be a part of it."

Chief Warrant Officer Brian Farrell
Florida National Guard

partment to find out what had happened. On Aug. 2, the Pentagon disclosed that Marines had recovered Speicher's bones and skeletal fragments — enough for a positive identification.

Speicher, a Kansas City-area native who moved to Florida as a teenager, will be laid to rest in a private ceremony at Jacksonville Memory Gardens.

His remains were flown to the Jacksonville Naval Air Station on Thursday and the casket remained in a chapel on the base overnight.

Speicher's widow and his children placed roses on his flag-draped casket on arrival. Sailors stood at attention.

Buddy Harris, who was Speicher's best friend and who later married his widow, Joanne, accompanied the casket on the flight from Dover, Del., to Florida.

Defense officials originally declared Speicher killed in action hours after his plane was shot down over west-central Iraq. Then-Defense Secretary Dick Cheney announced on television that Speicher was the first casualty of the Gulf War.

Ten years after the crash, the Navy changed Speicher's status to missing in action, citing an absence of evidence that Speicher had died. In October 2002, the Navy switched his status to "missing/captured," although it has never explained why.

Over the years, critics said the Navy had not done enough, particularly right after the crash, to search for the pilot.

The military recovered bones and multiple skeletal fragments recently, and Speicher was identified by matching a jawbone and dental records and later by DNA reference samples.

Many of the hundreds of people who lined the route didn't know Speicher but wanted to recognize his service.

"I'm here to recognize the sacrifice this young Navy officer gave to this country and the pain his family has endured for the last 18 years. I just got back from Iraq four months ago and I just wanted my family to be a part of it," said Chief Warrant Officer Brian Farrell, an instructor pilot with the Florida National Guard, dressed in his Army uniform.

Firm at center of Murtha probe is reinstated by Navy

By PETE YOST
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A defense contractor with longtime ties to Rep. John Murtha will now be able to get new government work following a favorable ruling from the U.S. Navy.

An agreement between Kuchera Defense Systems of Windber, Pa., and the Navy comes amid a Justice Department criminal investigation that appears to be intensifying.

Dennis McGlynn, an attorney representing Kuchera, said Thursday night the firm was removed from the Excluded Parties List System of contractors blocked from government work. McGlynn said Kuchera made some accounting adjustments to satisfy the Navy.

On Friday, the Navy had no immediate comment on the matter.

Kuchera is caught up in a criminal investigation that became public early this year when FBI agents raided the company's offices. In a separate raid last November, the FBI carted away financial records of campaign donations by a Washington-area lobbying firm founded by Paul Magliocchetti, who has long been close to Murtha. Magliocchetti's firm specialized in getting "earmarks" for defense contractors from Murtha and other House appropriators.

The Justice Department investigation focuses on the campaign donations from defense contractors that have fueled the process of congressional earmarks — specific projects that lawmakers direct to particular contractors — for many decades.



Murtha

As part of the probe, a federal grand jury subpoenaed Rep. Pete Visclosky's office, campaign committees and some of his employees to turn over documents in the probe.

The chief of staff for the Indiana Democrat resigned after the subpoenas were delivered.

In recent years, Murtha has steered millions of dollars in congressional earmarks to Kuchera from the Pennsylvania Democrat's position as chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense.

Visclosky is the third-ranking Democrat on the panel and also chairs his own House appropriations subcommittee on energy and water.

The most ominous development for members of Congress and defense contractors under scrutiny in the probe is the cooperation that two government witnesses recently began providing federal prosecutors.

One of them, Richard Ianieri, worked closely with one of the owners of the Kuchera company, William Kuchera, and with a lobbying firm that once employed Murtha's brother and that still employs a former Murtha aide.

On July 29, Ianieri testified in federal court in Pensacola, Fla., that he had taken \$200,000 in kickbacks from the Kuchera company after providing the defense contractor with \$650,000 from an \$8.2 million congressional earmark. Ianieri's firm had gotten the earmark after hiring the firm that employed Murtha's brother. Murtha's office refuses to say whether the congressman sponsored the earmark.

The \$8.2 million earmark that was the focus of a criminal trial in Pensacola was intended for a program at the munitions directorate of the Air Force Research Laboratory at Eglin Air Force Base. The program was designed to rapidly improve the Air Force's battlefield communication technology.

Appearance of Abu Ghraib figure canceled amid threats

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Organizers have canceled a lecture at the Library of Congress by the woman who became a symbol of the Abu Ghraib prisoner abuse scandal after threats caused concerns about staff safety.

Former Army reservist Lynndie England had been scheduled to discuss her biography Friday as part of a veterans forum on Capitol Hill. The book by author Gary S. Winkler is called "Tortured: Lynndie England, Abu Ghraib and the Photographs That Shocked the World."

In a notice to members, An-

gela Kinney, president of the Library of Congress Professional Association, said the event was canceled due to staff safety concerns.

David Moore, a Vietnam War veteran and German acquisitions specialist at the library who organized the event, said he had been receiving threats.

"We wanted to perform a nice service for the community and also have a little fun ourselves."

Staff Sgt. John Rorie, 35th Maintenance Squadron

Volunteers wage gorilla war on Misawa DUI

By T.D. FLACK
Stars and Stripes

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan — So I was walking down the street late last Saturday night, checking out the bar scene with some friends, when I uttered the following: "Dude, did anyone else just see two gorillas walk around that corner?"

Mentally calculating how much beer I'd already consumed, I was glad to know I wasn't the only one who spotted the gorillas, clad in shorts.

After posing for pictures, they explained that they were offering free rides to help keep people from drinking and driving.

They said they would even provide free daiko — the Japanese word used to describe a service in which you drive the drunken person's car home.

In an interview later in the week — sans gorilla costumes — the 35th Maintenance Squadron troops behind the volunteer effort explained why they decided on the project.

They're all members of the squadron's "Accessories Flight."

They said that after 35th Fighter Wing commander Col. David Stilwell aired a special TV and radio broadcast in mid-July to warn the community about a recent spike in alcohol-related incidents, they gathered to talk about what they could do.

"We wanted to perform a nice service for the community and also have a little fun ourselves," said Staff Sgt. John Rorie, who came up with the idea of the costumes.

"Basically to grab everyone's attention."

They ordered the costumes — two gorilla suits and one giant banana suit — and printed a batch of fliers announcing Monkeys Against Drunk Driving. They hit the bars Aug. 1, handing out the fliers and making sure people knew they would offer the free service on Aug. 8.

Between 10 p.m. and 4:30 a.m., they safely transported 76 people

to their homes — people who could have gotten behind the wheel of a car or gotten into trouble walking home.

Tech. Sgt. Michael Dlugiewicz, Rorie's supervisor and a volunteer driver that night, said he thinks they made a difference.

"A couple of people had walked past their cars a couple times like they were thinking about driving, and they saw us just sitting there," he said.

They ended up in his car instead.

Flight chief Senior Master Sgt. Steven Tuggle lauded his troops for their "self-initiated" action, pointing out that they bought the costumes themselves and used their own cars and gas money, not to mention giving up their free time.

Given the seriousness of the drinking and driving problem — with members of his own squadron as well as other squadrons — the volunteer project is important, he said.

"These guys are actually going to the customer and handing out the fliers, and what better way than dressed up as a primate from the zoo," Tuggle said.



T.D. FLACK/Stars and Stripes

Staff Sgt. John Rorie, left, Airman Corey Holt, center, and Senior Airman Abraham Vallejo hand out fliers Friday at the Misawa Air Base front gate to announce their Monkeys Against Drunk Driving program.

Stilwell said he appreciates Misawa airmen looking for ways to solve the problem.

"It's proof again that the best ideas come from the people closest to the subject," he wrote in an e-mail to Stars and Stripes late Thursday.

"Like Patton said — never tell people how to do things; tell them what to do and they'll surprise you with their ingenuity."

Rorie said they'd like to recruit enough

volunteers to run the service every weekend, but with only nine people, they have to limit it to around once a month for now. They plan get in one more night Saturday before an upcoming exercise.

They also hope other flights or squadrons see what they've done and take the challenge of developing their own programs.

E-mail T.D. Flack at:
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Chili's opens at Yokota



Servicemembers and their families at Yokota Air Base, Japan, file into the long-awaited Chili's Grill and Bar on Friday during the restaurant chain's Yokota grand opening. "It's about time," said Airman 1st Class Stacy Anderson. Staff Sgt. Thomas Jenkins said: "I heard about Chili's coming to Yokota back in 2004, back when it was just a dirty rumor. But seeing it now, I'm glad it's a rumor that's come true."

GRANT OKUBO/Stars & Stripes

U.S., Philippines agree on 2010 joint training

The Philippines and the United States have signed an agreement that outlines military exercises and counterterrorism training for the coming year, a U.S. Pacific Command spokesman confirmed Friday.

The agreement was signed by Lt. Gen. Victor S. Ibrado, chief of staff of the Philippine armed forces, and PACOM commander Adm. Timothy J. Keating.

The U.S. will continue to help the Philippines fight against terrorism in Mindanao, PACOM officials said.

The U.S. military also agreed to help install radar stations on sea

borders to help track terrorists.

University offering graduate scholarships

The University of Phoenix, Asia-Pacific Military Campus, is offering eight scholarships worth \$8,000 each for graduate-level work, according to a news release.

All active-duty servicemembers, family members and others under the status of forces agreement are eligible for the merit-based awards.

The scholarships are for students earning a Master of Business administration or Master of Education degree at the University of Phoenix.

Online students are not eligible

for the money.

To learn more, visit an on-base University of Phoenix office in Japan, South Korea or Guam.

The application process closes Oct. 9. Awards will be granted Nov. 30.

Guam base gate to be closed for utility work

The main gate of U.S. Naval Base Guam will be closed from 7 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. daily through Friday for a utility construction project.

The project involves burying power lines, according to a news release.

Drivers can use the back gate from 3 p.m. to 8 a.m.

From staff reports

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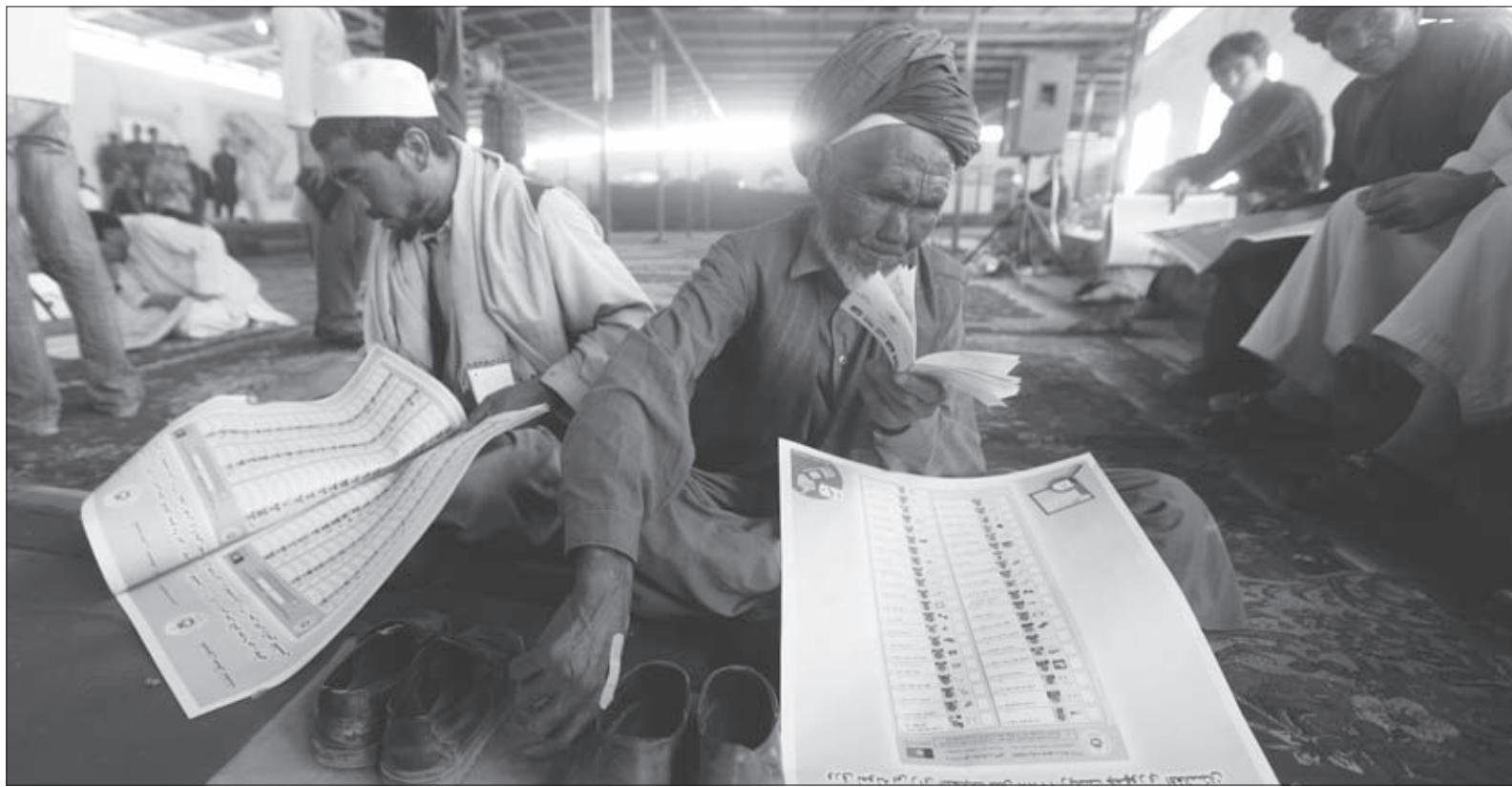
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RAFIQ MAQBOOL/AP

Afghan men read copies of ballot papers during the election awareness program on the outskirts of Kabul on Friday. Afghans will head to the polls on Thursday to elect a president for the second time in the country's history. U.S. officials in Afghanistan say their primary interest is a fair and free election campaign in which candidates debate issues.

U.S. tempers stance on Karzai as vote nears

By JOSHUA PARTLOW
AND KAREN DEYOUNG
The Washington Post

KABUL — The last time Hamid Karzai ran for president, in 2004, he was clearly America's man in Afghanistan. U.S. military helicopters shuttled him between campaign stops. Vice President Dick Cheney hailed his inauguration day as a major moment "in the history of human freedom."

With a new round of voting one week away—and Karzai favored to win another term—a less-enamored Obama administration is looking for ways to lessen U.S. reliance on the Afghan president by working more closely with favored ministers and bolstering the authority of provincial and local leaders, according to American and Afghan officials.

The goals reflect frustration among U.S. officials over Karzai's performance in the past five years, particularly his seeming indifference to the widespread corruption within his government. But as it increasingly appears that Karzai will be its partner over the next five years, the United States has also sought to preserve a relationship with him.

"Because they couldn't construct a plan

to replace Karzai, I think they toned down the criticism and kept the option open of working with Karzai, should he get re-elected," said Zalmay Khalilzad, a former U.S. ambassador to Afghanistan. "I think some administration officials realized that by being so openly critical of Karzai, they faced the risk that they could get a Karzai who was not only re-elected but was hostile to the U.S. because of how he had been treated."

The United States is "actively impartial" in the Aug. 20 vote, said Jane Marriott, a senior adviser to U.S. special representative Richard Holbrooke. But, according to Afghan Foreign Minister Rangin Dadfar Spanta, U.S. officials back the idea of a new chief executive position under Karzai to add coherence and competence to his struggling bureaucracy.

"I know that in Washington this idea has strong supporters," Spanta said in an interview, adding that installing a "shadow prime-minister" would pose constitutional problems.

U.S. officials have discussed the proposal with a key Karzai challenger, the technocratic former finance minister Ashraf Ghani, though they have not endorsed him for the job.

Rather than "just pouring money into

building the government," Holbrooke adviser Barnett Rubin said, the administration is focused on "rebuilding the relationship between subnational authorities and local communities."

Rubin, who along with Holbrooke and Marriott spoke at a media event in Washington on Wednesday, stressed that such activities were being undertaken in cooperation with the central government in Kabul.

Critical of some of Karzai's Cabinet choices, the administration has praised the competence of presidentially appointed local leaders such as the governor of Helmand province, Gulab Mangal. Plans by the U.S. Defense and State departments call for installing American "mentors" and liaisons in Afghan ministries in Kabul, a policy heavily used during the early years of the U.S. military occupation of Iraq.

President Barack Obama has called the Afghan election, the second since the Taliban regime's ouster in 2001, the most important event of the year in this country. Originally scheduled for April, the vote was postponed during what Holbrooke called a "crisis" period of Afghan constitutional and security upheaval. As a result, Holbrooke said, the Obama ad-

ministration was forced to defer other priorities in Afghanistan and spend "most of the spring" sorting out the situation.

Gen. Stanley McChrystal, the new U.S. military commander here, has postponed completion of his review of the security situation, originally due to Defense Secretary Robert Gates this weekend, in part because of the upcoming presidential and provincial council elections. "This is our main effort. I don't want anybody to think we're not anything but completely focused on this," McChrystal said.

U.S. officials here said their primary interest now is a fair and free election campaign in which the candidates—3,324 people have registered for 420 provincial council seats, and 41 are vying to be president—debate the issues. The officials also say they want a vote unmarred by fraud or violence, results that Afghans accept as legitimate and a government that responds to the needs of the people.

"We're very careful not to conjecture. What we're clear about is regardless of who comes into power, there needs to be much greater demand for accountability," said a U.S. official involved in the election process.



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Afghanistan army base is targeted by suicide bomber

The Associated Press

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan — A suicide bomber attacked an Afghan army base in southern Afghanistan on Friday, killing a soldier and wounding four other people, an official said.

The bomber rammed his vehicle into the base's gate in Lashkar Gah, the capital of Helmand province, said Daud Ahmadi, the provincial governor's spokesman. Three civilians and a soldier were among the wounded, he said.

Thousands of U.S. Marines are conducting anti-Taliban operations in Helmand, a key southern province that is the center of Taliban-led insurgency as well as the biggest opium producer in the world.

Militants have stepped up their use of suicide and other bomb-

ing attacks on Afghan and foreign troops, but the majority of the victims in such attacks have been civilians.

In the capital, meanwhile, two rockets were fired at Kabul's airport Friday, but neither caused damage or casualties, said U.S. military spokesman Chief Petty Officer Brian Naranjo. It was the second rocket attack on the capital this month. Taliban militants took responsibility for the previous attack.

A week before the presidential election, there are fears the militants will try to disrupt the poll.

Kabul is heavily guarded by Afghan security forces, and authorities say that rockets — fired from a distance — are the only weapon insurgents can use against the capital.



JULIE JACOBSON/AP

A U.S. Marine runs across a rooftop for more ammunition, during a firefight against Taliban on Friday in the village of Dahaneh in the Helmand province of Afghanistan.

Afghanistan polling stations secured

By LISA M. NOVAK
Stars and Stripes

NAPLES, Italy — All polling stations in Afghanistan have been inspected by Afghan security and NATO forces ahead of Thursday's election, and 90 percent or more of the 7,000 stations will be open, according to NATO's new commander in Europe.

Adm. James Stavridis described Thursday's vote, which will include close to 40 presidential candidates and more than 3,000 provincial candidates, as "a critically important election" that will be "open to the Afghan people."

That outlook is optimistic in light of recent concerns over violence expressed by the U.N. Special Representative for Afghanistan, Kai Eide. "Yes, of course I am concerned that security will affect the turnout on the voting day. There is no doubt about that," Eide said during an Aug. 9 news conference in Kabul.

"It is, of course, sad that we have conflict ongoing in the country which will not allow all Afghan voters to come to the polling stations."

Kai Eide
U.N. special representative for Afghanistan

"It is, of course, sad that we have conflict ongoing in the country which will not allow all Afghan voters to come to the polling stations ... to give their vote and have their say what the future of Afghanistan should be."

Afghanistan's future presents a challenge and an indefinite commitment for NATO forces.

One prediction, made by Britain's army chief Gen. David Richards last week, was for a NATO troop presence in Afghanistan for "30 to 40 years."

Though Stavridis wouldn't comment on Richards' prediction, he described the NATO commitment as "long-term," reciting NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen's comments to Afghan President Hamid Karzai last week in Afghanistan: "We'll be here as long as it takes."

The timeline and troop commitment are both indefinite. A war assessment is due at the end of the month from Gen. Stanley McChrystal, commanding U.S. general in Afghanistan.

Though the election could see a change in government, Stavridis said the key to success lies in training the Afghan security forces.

E-mail Lisa Novak at: novakl@estripes.osd.mil

Marines are due in Georgia for training

TBILISI, Georgia — The U.S. Embassy in Georgia says a group of U.S. Marines will arrive in the ex-Soviet nation to help train its troops, which are to be deployed alongside coalition forces in Afghanistan.

The move is likely to antagonize Russia, which has strongly spoken against any U.S. military assistance to Georgia.

The U.S. Embassy said Friday that the training will focus on skills necessary for the troops to operate in Afghanistan.

A Georgian battalion is set to deploy to Afghanistan next spring. The Embassy said that the training program is set to start Sept. 1.

From The Associated Press

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Still in the race

The prestige may be gone, but the Baghdad Equestrian Club rides on

BY NED PARKER
AND CAESAR AHMED
Los Angeles Times

BAGHDAD — The Baghdad Equestrian Club is proud of its past, the decades spent playing host to high-strung horses and the Baghdad Derby, with its silver cup for the winner.

These days, stray dogs crawl around its dusty brown track, and children run through the dirt. Men in coffee-stained robes and the occasional John Deere cap slam down beers, puff cigarettes and take the name of Allah in vain.

But beneath its seedy veneer, the racetrack is one of the city's miracles.

After the U.S. invasion six years ago, some of the best horses were stolen and ended up pulling carts of kerosene and propane in the street. Later, the track was in the middle of territory claimed by al-Qaida in Iraq.

In Baghdad's worst years, car bombs exploded at the track's gate, mortars exploded inside and gunmen assassinated spectators as they left the races. Attendance dwindled to a few hundred; some owners sold their horses.

But somehow the club defied the tide of extremism and anarchy. Veterans of the dark days are proud to point out that the racetrack kept going, even when everything else in the city was shuttered.

Now, Iraqis are coming to the races in large numbers and the

club is turning a profit. Cars jam the parking lot, and men line up by the betting booth and kill time throwing dice.

One habitue, who boasts about the lies he tells his pious family to cover up his weekly visits, volunteers what could be the motto for the club, where Iraqis check political and religious tensions at the door: "I don't pray to Allah for my horse to win — I drink whisky and beer."

The track, founded in 1920 by the country's British colonial occupiers, preserves some of the cosmopolitan flavor of a bygone era.

In the 1940s, the races, then held in the city's Mansour district, were considered the finest in the Middle East. Wealthy families bred stallions, and horse lovers and rakish gamblers mixed. Even today, businessmen, tribal sheiks and working-class Iraqis rub shoulders at the track, now tucked on the outskirts of Baghdad.

Taleb Abdul Hussein Majid, chairman of the Baghdad Equestrian Club, had all the reason in the world to stop coming during the worst of the post-invasion violence, when al-Qaida in Iraq would kill a man based on his sect. Majid is a Shiite, and the club is in Sunni territory.

One day in early 2007, he stayed late after a race to groom his horses, and the group he usually left with for safety had gone. He was ambushed by masked assailants who blocked the road with their cars. A bullet grazed



PHOTOS BY SAAD KHALAF/Los Angeles Times

A jockey sits with his horse between races at the Baghdad Equestrian Club. The club has managed to survive despite extremism and anarchy brought on by the war.

Majid's abdomen, but he broke through the blockade.

For the next two days, Majid returned to the track with friends and relatives toting weapons. Not long after, in an unrelated incident, his brother and nephew were shot dead picking up their food rations.

Even after the attacks, he couldn't bring himself to stay away.

"It would have been the end of the club," he said.

As much as Majid finds it odious, the track has served as a magnet for Baghdad's underbelly.

There are stories of all-night parties, prostitution and gun-running before and after the 2003 invasion; of how U.S. Army patrols thought they had discovered a corpse at the track — only to find out it was a drunk slumbering after a hard day at the races. Some believe the presence of lawless types might have offered some limited protection from al-Qaida in Iraq during the civil war.

On a busy Saturday afternoon, the club's accountant, Musa Tabra, surveys the stands, filled with hundreds of fans.

"Here are the greatest characters in the world," he said with a smile, a silver watch jangling like a bracelet on his wrist. He points to a friend, a retired jockey from Darfur who has lived in Baghdad for more than 20 years. The jockey, he says, won the last race before the U.S.-led invasion.

"We live in our own world," Tabra says.

Majid and Tabra dream that their dust-bowl racetrack will be restored to its glory of the 1940s, when the facilities were a source of pride. For now they just enjoy the return of people to the track.

Old men puff on hookahs. Watermelon is sliced for sale. A crowd throws wads of cash down on a game of dice. A loudspeaker

announces the start of a race, and Tabra stops by the betting booths. He smiles as men wave their fists as the horses rush through a sea of dust toward the finish line.

Some shout unprintable curses involving Allah. Those holding winning tickets cry, "I love you, I love you."

One fan spots Tabra.

"These are all bad, filthy people here," the man said. "You are my friend. You should advise me on the good and bad horses and not mislead me."

Tabra smirks.

"I don't do favors. This is gambling. ... People lose, people win," he tells the unlucky bettor. "This is how we do it."

ATTENTION CUSTOMERS OF SAMSUNG RENTAL COMPANY LIMITED (SSRT):

Gi-Hwan Jeong, chief executive of SSRT, was found guilty on June 11, 2009, of two counts of bribery, two counts of honest services wire fraud, and one count of conspiracy for his role in a bribery scheme to secure and maintain a telecommunications contract with the Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) beginning in Fall 2001 and continuing through Summer 2006. Henry Lee Holloway, former AAFES General Manager, was found guilty on April 21, 2009, of one count of conspiracy for his role in the bribery scheme, and one count of filing a false tax return for failing to report bribe proceeds from Jeong.

Jeong is scheduled to be sentenced on October 14, 2009, at 9:30 a.m. at the Earle Cabell Federal Building, 1100 Commerce Street, Dallas, Texas, 75242, Courtroom 1627. Holloway is scheduled to be sentenced on December 16, 2009, at 9:30 a.m. at the United States Post Office and Courthouse, 120 Twelfth Street, Columbus, Georgia, 31902.

If you were an SSRT customer in the Republic of Korea between 2001 and 2007, who subscribed to SSRT's DSL internet, cable television, internet telephony, cable-based internet, or land-line telephone services, and you would like to provide information regarding your experience with SSRT's provision of these services for the purpose of assisting the court in determining the defendants' sentences, please contact the United States Department of Justice, Criminal Division, Public Integrity Section by September 9, 2009, via email at victimassistance.pin@usdoj.gov.

The instant criminal proceedings against Jeong and Holloway DO NOT involve SSRT's provision of cellular telephone service or calling cards, and DO NOT involve financial restitution or compensation for customers.



A jockey saddles up his horse at the Baghdad Equestrian club.

Firm that provides Arabic translators criticized

BY RICHARD LARDNER

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A company with a \$4.6 billion contract to supply U.S. forces in Iraq with Arabic-speaking translators received a scathing review on Wednesday from government officials who described tens of millions of dollars in questionable costs and poor management.

The company, Global Linguist Solutions of Falls Church, Va., has not been replaced because there isn't another company readily available to provide the linguists even as the U.S. presence in Iraq is winding down, the officials said at a hearing by the independent Commission on Wartime Contracting.

Federal contracting officers who went to Iraq to examine the company's perfor-

mance found about \$5 million being spent on three-bedroom apartments and automobiles for individual contractor employees, said John Isgrigg, deputy director of contracting at the Army Intelligence and Security Command.

At the same time, the company was slow getting linguists into Iraq, Isgrigg said. GLS is now meeting the required numbers, he said.

Interpreters provide critical links between U.S. troops and foreign populations in both Iraq and Afghanistan. Supplying translators for troops in foreign war zones has troubled the government for years.

John Houck, general manager of GLS, defended the company's performance, saying that more than 9,000 interpreters are working in Iraq and other Middle East

countries. He said greater communication between customer and contractor would likely resolve most of the problems.

Isgrigg said GLS initially struggled to meet the heavy demands. An Army unit in Iraq was "nonission capable with respect to linguist support," he said.

The shortcomings led to a dispute over how the company was spending the money. Subsequent negotiations with GLS to cut the cost of contract's first installment by about \$225 million were "extremely contentious," he said.

Isgrigg said he and other government officials believe GLS "lost control of their subcontractors and associated costs due to their business practices and management decisions."

Isgrigg acknowledged that too few gov-

ernment personnel were assigned to manage and watch over the contract, which he referred to as a "monster."

He also criticized GLS management for what he called a media campaign to convince U.S. authorities in Iraq that the salaries of linguists would have to be slashed because the command was reducing the value of the contract.

Instead, it was GLS that was trimming the salaries to make up for the lower cost of the contract, he said. The company then attempted to shift the blame to the government. Houck denied there was a media campaign, but he did say people employed by GLS did talk to military officials.

April Stephenson, director of the Defense Contract Audit Agency, said \$2.9 billion has been used to hire 18 subcontractors.

Activist attempts to steer North Carolina youth away from military

BY MIKE BAKER

The Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — A rural North Carolina school district with a proud military tradition is allowing a Quaker peace activist a chance to compete with military recruiters at steering high school students to careers, attorneys said Wednesday.

For years, Sally Ferrell had been asking permission to warn students about joining the military. The Wilkes County School Board had denied her access, even though military recruiters

are typically allowed in school, and school leaders had called her activities unpatriotic.

Superintendent Stephen Laws said the district and the American Civil Liberties Union reached an agreement that bars recruiters from presenting political views or attacking other occupations. He disputed the suggestion that Ferrell had not been granted equal access, arguing she was banned from schools because her criticism of the armed forces violated district policy.

The ACLU had argued Ferrell and her group, North Carolina

Peace Action, were denied free speech. Under the agreement, she'll have the same access to students as military recruiters.

"I look forward to providing truthful, job-related information about military careers — and alternatives to careers in the military," Ferrell said in a statement. The agreement allows for information that "some may perceive as negative or discouraging."

The settlement puts new restrictions on all types of promoters. Recruiters can no longer approach students directly, as they often do by setting up tables

in cafeterias and common areas. Instead, they can only meet with students who sign up to hear about opportunities, Laws said.

"We're extremely pleased with the agreement, and we're excited about moving on," Laws said.

Recruiters have been relying more heavily on high schools to help fill the ranks of the all-volunteer military. Thousands of people like Ferrell have responded with counter-recruiting groups, saying the military often gives misleading information.

Activists have complained

the military often targets high schools in poor and rural areas, where graduating students have limited options. Wilkes County, on the eastern slope of the Blue Ridge Mountains about 50 miles west of Winston-Salem, has been hurt by the exodus of manufacturing jobs. Its June unemployment rate was 13.2 percent.

The area has a proud military history going back to Col. Benjamin Cleveland, a Revolutionary War commander who helped defeat the British in the Battle of Kings Mountain.

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Poll: Pakistanis revile Taliban more than U.S.

By KAY JOHNSON
The Associated Press

ISLAMABAD — Pakistanis' views on the Taliban have shifted dramatically in the past year, with 70 percent now opposing the militants, according to a new poll. The United States doesn't fare well either, with 64 percent of Pakistanis seeing Washington as an enemy.

The mounting unpopularity of the Taliban coincides with an explosion of militant violence in Pakistan — attacks have killed more than 2,500 people since the start of 2008 — and the extremists' attempts to expand their reach and impose a harsh interpretation of Islam in new parts of the country.

Pew Global Attitudes, a project of a nonpartisan research center based in Washington, released the poll Thursday. It conducted face-to-face interviews with 1,254 adult Pakistanis in late May and early June, mostly in urban areas. It conducts a similar poll each year.

In 2008, 27 percent of Pakistanis surveyed had a favorable view of the Taliban, and 33 percent saw them unfavorably. The rest had no opinion.

A year later, only 10 percent approved of the Taliban. Some 70 percent disapproved — more



Troops from the Pakistan army patrol the main market in Mingora, the capital of Pakistan's Swat Valley, on Wednesday.

than double than in 2008. The numbers for al-Qaida followed a similar sinking trajectory, with support for the terrorist network at just 9 percent.

However, the U.S. was only slightly more popular than the Taliban. Nearly two-thirds, 64 percent, viewed America as an enemy while only 9 percent described it as a partner, even though the U.S. is impoverished Pakistan's biggest donor and the two countries appear to be increasingly coordinating in anti-

terrorist operations along the Afghan border.

Pakistan was one of only four countries among 20 recently surveyed by Pew that did not show sharply improved views of the U.S. since President Barack Obama took office. In Pakistan, opinion had not changed, and it had the lowest confidence rating in the new president of any of the 20 countries, at 13 percent.

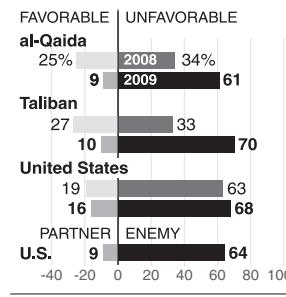
"Obama is like an old wine in a new bottle," said Mohammed Zaman, 45, a lawyer in Lahore.

Concerning the Taliban, increasing evidence of the group's cruelty was swaying many Pakistanis' views against the

Pakistani perspective

Pakistanis' concern about Islamic extremism has grown over the past year, while remaining distrustful of the United States, according to survey results.

Pakistani public opinion



its fight against the Taliban — a loose federation of various tribal and regional factions — in April after militants broke a peace deal and took over a district about 60 miles from the capital, Islamabad. Government forces took back that district and also the nearby Swat Valley.

Now the military is targeting Taliban-controlled strongholds in the northwestern tribal belt, where the militants are also believed to give shelter to al-Qaida leaders and help plan attacks on U.S. forces in neighboring Afghanistan.

In the latest fighting, army helicopter gunships pounded several bases near the Kurram and Aurakzai tribal areas, killing 12 people Thursday, intelligence officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Many residents of the tribal regions — whose conservative, ethnic Pashtun residents were not part of the Pew survey — also oppose the militants, but they are too afraid to express their view, according to Mujahid Hussain, 28, who lives in the Taliban-controlled town of Mir Ali in North Waziristan.

"The Taliban are terrorists. They are the enemy of humanity and the enemy of Islam and they should be eliminated from the country," he said, adding that the army should not abandon its operations in North and South Waziristan without crushing the insurgents.

"Obama is like an old wine in a new bottle."

Mohammed Zaman, Lawyer from Lahore, Pakistan

Journalists protest Iraq government pressure

By SAMEER N. YACOUB
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Journalists took to the streets Friday in the Iraqi capital to protest what they say is political pressure to silence the media.

The rally, staged by scores of reporters and political figures, comes as journalist Ahmed Abdul-Hussein has been threatened with a lawsuit over editorials related to a bloody Baghdad bank robbery that left eight security guards dead.

Iraqi journalists have never enjoyed press freedoms and protections that most of their Western colleagues receive. In recent years, journalists have been beaten and arrested by Iraqi security forces for attempting to document insurgent attacks or mass protests.

The situation has become more tense as the political campaign gears up ahead of national elections, which are scheduled for January.

"We are here to reject government censorship or intervention in our work," said protesters Ziyad al-Khafaji of the Baghdad-based independent Journalistic Freedom Observatory, a media rights group. "Democratic countries should not fear a free media."

The protesters carried signs that read "do not kill the truth" and chanted "Yes, yes to freedom. No, no to silencing journalists." There were no reports of violence during the demonstration, held

in front of the famed Mutanabi Street book market.

"It is the very duty of journalists to reveal the truth, and we are against any kind of censorship of the media," said Fawzi al-Atrooshi, the deputy culture minister, who also attended the rally. "We are against any threats made against journalists."

Anger has risen after Abdul-Hussein has been threatened with a lawsuit by a Shiite lawmaker for an editorial that alluded to a political party supporting the heist, and claimed the nearly \$7 million stolen was meant to finance political campaigns.

Abdul-Hussein offered no proof in the editorial and did not name the party.

Presidential guards have been accused of participating in a July 28 robbery of the state-run Rafidain Bank in Baghdad in which about \$6.9 million was stolen.

Iraqi Vice President Adel Abdul-Mahdi, a senior member of the largest Shiite party, the Supreme

Iraqi Islamic Council, has denied any involvement but said one of the guards charged in the robbery worked as part of his detail.

Abdul-Mahdi has been under fire from political opponents over the case, especially after authorities discovered the stolen money in the office of a newspaper he owns. The vice president has called the allegations politically motivated.

Hard-line Shiite lawmaker and cleric, Jalaluddin al-Saghir, has threatened Abdul-Hussein with a lawsuit to stop the editorials.

Journalists came under fire Friday by at least one Shiite cleric, Mohammed Falak, who told worshippers in Basra during prayers that there should be rules for the media.

Journalists also have frequently been targeted or otherwise caught up in Iraq's violence, with 139 killed since the March 2003 U.S. invasion, according to the New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists.



An Iraqi journalist chants slogans Friday during a protest at Mutanabi Street in Baghdad.

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IN THE WORLD



WALLY SANTANA/AP

A house destroyed by massive flooding from Typhoon Morakot is seen at the gate of another home in the mountain village of Sinfia, Taiwan, on Friday, six days after flash flooding took the lives of dozens of villagers in the area.

Typhoon leaves 500 dead

Taiwanese rescue crews press forward

BY ANNIE HUANG
The Associated Press

TAIPEI, Taiwan — Floods and mudslides unleashed by Typhoon Morakot last weekend have killed about 500 people on the island, Taiwan's president said Friday as he called on rescue crews to step up their efforts.

Morakot destroyed the homes of 7,000 people and caused agricultural and property damage in excess of \$1.5 billion, President Ma Ying-jeou said at a national security conference.

He called it the most severe damage to the island in more than 50 years.

"While the rescue operation is still going on, we have started rehabilitation and reconstruction work, which is just as pressing as relief efforts but might be even more difficult and cumbersome," Ma said.

Morakot dumped more than 80 inches of rain on the island last weekend and stranded thousands in villages in the mountainous south. A total of 15,400 villagers have been ferried to safety, and rescuers are working to save another 1,900 people still stuck.

Ma said the death toll includes 120 confirmed deaths and about 380 people believed to be buried in the debris of a landslide in Shiao Lin, the hardest-hit village.

Typhoon disrupts Internet, phone services in Asia

TAIPEI, Taiwan — Seabed movements believed caused by Typhoon Morakot damaged seven undersea cables linking Asian nations, disrupting Internet and telephone services, a Taiwanese telephone company said Friday.

Taiwan's Chunghwa Telecom, which jointly operates four cables in the Bashi Channel between Taiwan and the Philippines, said service has been slow since the typhoon pummeled Taiwan last weekend. Voice calls and Internet data traffic were to be fully restored later Friday, it said.

Meanwhile, two of the Philippines' largest telecommunications providers said their international call and broadband services have suffered partial disruptions since Wednesday because of damaged undersea cables connecting China, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Malaysia, Singapore and the Philippines.

Chen Hui-yen, an official at Chungwa, said the disruption to communications had been contained as Internet traffic and voice calls were rerouted to other cable networks.

— The Associated Press

The military finally opened a road to Shiao Lin on Friday, but authorities have given up hope of finding anyone alive under the tons of mud that cover the village, Kaohsiung county chief Yang Chiu-hsing said.

Instead of digging into some 170 mud-buried homes, a memorial park will be built on the site, he told reporters.

Another six victims were from the village of Sinfia where a torrent of water cascaded down a steep mountain facade, turning

homes on the village's eastern fringe into piles of rubble and debris.

"They were there one day, and now they are gone," said Ban Bi-hsing.

Elsewhere in the village, streets were covered in mud and roads had buckled and collapsed amid days of torrential rains.

Many villagers have conducted their own rescue operations. More than 20,000 troops have joined civilian workers on rescue, cleanup and rehabilitation work.

Clinton expresses optimism on Africa's future after tour

By MATTHEW LEE
The Associated Press

SANTA MARIA, Cape Verde — Winding up an 11-day African tour, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said Friday she's optimistic about its future and voiced no regrets about "tough love" messages she gave to government leaders there.

"I love coming to Africa," Clinton said at a joint news conference in Cape Verde with Prime Minister Jose Maria Pereira Neves as she prepared to head back to Washington.

"I have been overwhelmed," the secretary said of her visits to Kenya, South Africa, Angola, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Nigeria and Liberia, as well as Cape Verde. "I have been filled with hope and I have seen despair. But I come away with an even greater level of commitment than I had before," Clinton said.

She used the tour to reinforce a message that President Barack Obama brought to Africa earlier this year, a call for leaders to fight corruption, promote democracy and combat civil strife, disease, violence and squalor wherever it exists.

Responding to Clinton, Neves said that "we represent a new and emerging Africa" with progress in the areas of free press, free speech and the rule of law.

U.S. officials have said that Cape Verde, a former Portuguese colony off the coast of West Africa, could serve as a model for other African nations as it has held numerous free and fair elections and has taken measures to ensure accountability and transparency in government.

Clinton, particularly, praised the government as "a model of democracy and economic progress in Africa."

She noted that women account for more than half the members of Cape Verde's Cabinet. "I think the United States can learn a lot from your example," she told Neves.

Said Clinton: "I always feel a sense of awe that we are in the place where human beings began so many, many years ago."

"I leave Africa even more committed about what lies ahead," she told reporters. "The Obama administration has delivered ... a message of tough love. We are not sugarcoating the problems. We're not shying away from them."



PEWEE FLOMOKU/AP

Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, left, and U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton appear at the police academy in Monrovia, Liberia, on Thursday. Clinton offered strong support for the embattled Sirleaf.

Cape Verde sightings of missing ship reported

MOSCOW — The search for a Russian-manned cargo ship that vanished last month in the Atlantic reached far south along the West African coast Friday with unconfirmed reports of sightings near Cape Verde.

The Arctic Sea — carrying a load of timber and 15 Russian sailors — passed through the English Channel on July 28. The freighter sent radio messages as it sailed along the coasts of France and Portugal, European officials said Friday. Then all contact was lost.

The Russian state news agency ITAR-Tass and the German paper Financial Times Deutschland reported that the ship was spotted near the islands of Cape Verde, a former Portuguese colony off the coast of West Africa. ITAR-Tass, reporting from London, cited unidentified officials at NATO; the newspaper cited two sources but did not identify them.

From The Associated Press

South Korea to renew aid offer to North

BY KWANG-TAE KIM
The Associated Press

SEOUL — South Korea plans to renew its offer to give aid to North Korea if the communist country "abandons its nuclear" program, the president's office said Friday, a day after the North freed a South Korean worker detained for months.

The North's move came a week after Pyongyang released two U.S. journalists following a visit by former President Bill Clinton.

Along with reiterating his commitment to assisting North Korea's economy and infrastructure, President Lee Myung-bak also plans to make a wide range of

proposals to help establish peace on the divided peninsula, his office said. Lee's proposals will be announced Saturday, when he plans to deliver a speech marking the anniversary of the Korean peninsula's liberation from Japan's 1910-45 colonial rule.

Meanwhile, Hyundai Group Chairwoman Hyun Jung-eun, who visited Pyongyang on Monday to secure the release of a detained Hyundai worker, extended her stay for another day — the third time this week — and plans to return home Saturday.

On Thursday, Pyongyang freed Yoo Seong-jin, 44, a technician who worked at the joint industrial

park in the North's border city of Kaesong, where about 110 South Korean-run factories employ about 40,000 North Korean workers. Yoo was held for allegedly denouncing the North's government and attempting to persuade a North Korean worker to defect.

Yoo was detained in a Kaesong inn for 136 days without any outside contact after criticizing the North's regime, Yoo's brother said, according to South Korea's Yonhap news agency.

The North is still holding four South Korean fishermen whose boat was seized last month after straying accidentally into northern waters.



LEE JIN-MAN/AP

Vehicles wait to head to the North Korean city of Kaesong at the customs, immigration and quarantine office in Paju, South Korea.

U.S. senator in Myanmar for talks with leaders

The Associated Press

YANGON, Myanmar — Days after the world slammed Myanmar for sentencing Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi to more house arrest, Sen. Jim Webb arrived in the military-ruled country's capital Friday.

The visit has drawn criticism from activists who say it confers legitimacy on a brutal regime, but the Obama administration gave the Virginia Democrat its blessing.

Relations between Myanmar, also known as Burma, and the U.S. have been strained since its military crushed pro-democracy protests in 1988. Washington is Myanmar's strongest critic, and the sentencing of democracy leader Suu Kyi and an American citizen at the same trial threatened to drag ties even lower.

But President Barack Obama's new ambassador for East Asia, Kurt Campbell, recently said the administration is interested in easing its policy of isolation. Webb, who is chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's East Asia and Pacific Affairs Subcommittee, has suggested that "affirmative engagement" would bring the most change to Myanmar.

In a letter to Webb, dissident groups warned the junta would use the senator's trip for its own ends.

"We are concerned that the military regime will manipulate and exploit your visit and propagandize that you endorse their treatment on Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and over 2,100 political prisoners, their human rights abuses on the people of Burma, and their systematic, widespread and ongoing attack against the ethnic minorities," the letter said. Daw is a term of respect for older women in Myanmar.



Webb



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Lockerbie bomber drops appeal of conviction

BY BEN McCONVILLE
The Associated Press

EDINBURGH, Scotland — The man serving a life sentence for the attack on Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie is dropping his appeal against conviction, his lawyers said Friday — removing a possible obstacle to his transfer to Libya.

British broadcasters last week said without citing sources that Abdel Basset Ali al-Megrahi would be released early from a Scottish prison on compassionate grounds.

He is terminally ill with cancer.

The Scottish government said it has yet to decide on his motion for early release. They are also considering a motion to allow him to serve the rest of his sentence in Libya.

Al-Megrahi was told earlier this year he must drop the appeal against his conviction before he could be considered for a prison transfer to Libya. No transfer can occur while legal proceedings are ongoing.

He would not have to drop his appeal, however, to be freed on compassionate

grounds.

A judge is expected on Tuesday to review al-Megrahi's request to drop the appeal.

The Libyan government applied in May to have al-Megrahi repatriated under a prison transfer agreement it has with Britain.

Separately, al-Megrahi applied in July for release on compassionate grounds, claiming he is terminally ill with prostate cancer.

The former Libyan secret service agent is the sole person convicted for the Decem-

ber 1988 bombing of Pan Am 103 that killed 270 people — most of them Americans.

He was arrested in 1991 and held under house arrest in Libya until he was handed over in 1998 to Britain. He was convicted in 2001 by a special Scottish court set held at Kamp van Zeist in the Netherlands. The current legal action is his second appeal.

Dr. Jim Swire, whose daughter Flora died on Flight 103, said his greatest fear was that the appeal would be dropped and therefore the truth about the bombing would never be known.



ALIK KEPLICZ/AP

Women pray in front of caskets containing remains of World War II victims during a reburial ceremony at the German Victims of the War cemetery in the village of Stare Czarnowo, Poland, on Friday.

More than 2,000 WWII remains reburied in Poland

The Associated Press

STARE CZARNOWO, Poland — Poles and Germans set aside old rancor Friday and united in grief as they reburied the bones of 2,116 people believed to be German civilians killed in the final, vicious months of World War II.

Wooden coffins — 119 of them, each topped with white carnations and containing the remains of more than a dozen people — were laid out side-by-side in a vast grave at a German war cemetery in Stare Czarnowo, a Polish village near the border with Germany.

Religious leaders blessed the remains and mourners tossed red roses onto the coffins as the service drew to a close.

"We have gathered here to properly bury and pay respect to the World War II victims," Bishop Marian Kruszyłowicz, a Roman Catholic leader from the nearby city of Szczecin, said during a 90-

minute ceremony held in German and Polish. "We owe them that."

About 300 people attended, most of them Germans who were expelled from Eastern Europe at the end of World War II when Europe's borders were redrawn. German Ambassador Michael H. Gerdts and city officials from Malbork, where the remains were found, also attended.

On Sept. 1, German Chancellor Angela Merkel plans to attend ceremonies in Poland marking the 70th anniversary of the start of the war, which began with the Nazi invasion of Poland.

Forensic experts and anthropologists believe the victims are probably German civilians who died in early 1945 in Malbork, at the time the German city of Marienburg. However, no documents, clothes or personal belongings were found with them except for a pair of children's glasses.

U.S., Libya discuss military equipment

The Associated Press

TRIPOLI, Libya — A delegation of U.S. senators led by John McCain met with Libya's leader Friday to discuss the possible delivery of nonlethal defense equipment.

The visit and Washington's offer of military equipment was another sign of the improving ties between the former longtime adversaries.

"We discussed the possibility of moving ahead with the provision of nonlethal defense equipment to the government of Libya," McCain said at a news conference.

A halting, five-year rapprochement between the two countries began in 2003 when Moammar Gadhafi renounced terrorism and weapons of mass destruction. Earlier this year, Washington posted an ambassador to Libya for the first time in 36 years. McCain, however, said the U.S. remained concerned about Libya's record on human rights and political reform.

"As we move ahead with the many ways in which the United States and Libya can work together as partners, there remain areas where real work needs to be done," McCain said. "The status of human rights and political reform in Libya will remain a chief element of concern."

The U.S. State Department's 2008 human rights report on Libya says problems include reported disappearances, torture, arbitrary arrests and the detention of political prisoners. The report also cites a lack of civil liberties, restrictions on freedom of religion and discrimination against women and ethnic minorities.

Still, McCain said, "ties between the United States and Libya have taken a remarkable and positive turn in recent years."

The American delegation also included Sens. Joseph Lieberman, Susan Collins and Lindsey Graham.

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"They are like the pyramids of northern Europe, these wrecks."

Andreas Olsson
Swedish archaeologist

NIKLAS LARSSON/AP

Patrik Heglund, an archaeologist from the Swedish National Maritime Museums, dives down to the shipwreck Anna Maria in Dalaro, south of Stockholm.

A graveyard tour (at the bottom of the sea)

BY MALIN RISING
The Associated Press

20,000

the number of confirmed ships lying wrecked less than

100

feet below the surface of the Baltic Sea

the number of ships thought to be undiscovered:

80,000

The fire began in the galley, where the crew had kept a stove burning while they visited a tavern ashore. As the flames devoured her stern, the Anna Maria sank through the ice in the Stockholm archipelago.

Three hundred years later, the Dutch merchant ship rests amid seaweed and algae about 60 feet below the surface. Marine archaeologist Niklas Eriksson relives the blaze.

"Now I'm swimming towards the stern where the galley was located and it was here that they had dinner; it was here that the fire started," Eriksson says, his voice transmitted by a cable to a research boat.

The Anna Maria is part of a vast graveyard of ill-fated ships hidden in the murky waters of the Baltic Sea, protected from the shipworm that destroys wooden wrecks in saltier oceans. Some 20,000 shipwrecks have been found dating back to as far as the Viking age. Researchers believe as many as 80,000 more could still be waiting to be discovered.

Eriksson and his colleagues plan to offer boat tours where visitors can see some of the most spectacular wrecks through a camera attached to a remotely operated vehicle. The idea is modeled on a shipwreck tour in Lake Champlain, in Vermont. The boats would have flat-screen TVs installed, and the story of each shipwreck site would be told through 3D animations and old sea charts.

They hope to start the tours next year off the small town of Dalaro, about 25 miles from Stockholm. That area is especially rich in wrecks because it used to be the customs zone for ships traveling back and forth to the Swedish capital.

The underground cemetery in the Baltic Sea includes everything from medieval wooden ships to ironclad warships sunk during two world wars.

"They are like the pyramids of northern Europe, these wrecks, if we can only find a way to make them accessible," says Andreas Olsson, head of archaeology at the Swedish National Maritime Museums.

Not everyone in Dalaro is excited about the plans, and some worry that valuable historical items will be looted from the wrecks, which would be better kept in museums.

Sweden's most famous discovery, the royal warship Vasa, is housed in a popular museum, where visitors can admire the ship's details, down to the flashing teeth of the carved lions that adorn its elaborate exterior. The Vasa was raised from the Stockholm harbor in 1961, 333 years after it sank on its maiden voyage.

And then there's the Dalaro Wreck. The two masts from the 17th-century ship of unknown origin are still rising toward the surface. On the deck, a cannon stands ready. A handgun lies hidden in the rubble of the ship discovered in 2003.

The plans for Dalaro include a limited number of dive tours each year on the Dalaro Wreck and Anna Maria.

IN THE STATES

Could a serial killer be stalking a N.C. town?

The Associated Press

ROCKY MOUNT, N.C. — Since 2005, nine women who lived at the edges of the poor community in this small North Carolina city have disappeared.

Six bodies were found along rural roads just a few miles out-

side town. At least one of the women was strangled, and all the deaths have been classified as homicides. Three women are still missing.

Police will not say whether they suspect a serial killer, but people in the community about 60 miles northeast of Raleigh do,

and they're impatient with law enforcement efforts to investigate the slayings.

After the latest body was found in June behind a burnt-out house that was once a crack den, local law enforcement and state police formed a task force. Last month, the FBI got involved.

"We got someone out here that's snatching up females," said Stephanie Jones, a 28-year-old nursing student. "I mean, next person could be your grandmother, it could be me, it could be my mother, it could be my daughter."

Jones, who knew two of the victims, has founded a group that

is raising money to publicize the slayings and search for those still missing. She says the cases are being swept under the rug because of the victims' lifestyles as prostitutes.

The lead investigator, Sheriff James Knight, said he cannot comment.

Woman sets herself on fire in Miami mall

By MATT SEDENSKY
The Associated Press

MIAMI — A woman set herself on fire at a Miami mall Thursday, then walked around engulfed in flames as shocked shoppers watched, authorities said.

Two men and a woman who tried to help her were hurt, but not badly.

The 43-year-old woman, whose name was not released, doused herself with a flammable liquid at the Mall of the Americas, Miami-Dade Fire Rescue spokesman Arnold Piedrahita said. She had third-degree burns over 75 percent of her body and was found conscious in a parking lot. Authorities do not know why she set herself on fire.

She was air-lifted to a hospital.

Witnesses said she was in a clothing store called Savage Boutique when it happened. Jose Morales, 24, said he was about to pay for earrings for his girlfriend at a nearby

kiosk when he heard screams and thought someone had fallen.

When he turned around, he saw the blaze and realized someone was within it.

"This woman is just walking like this, super slow, completely on fire," Morales said, his arms stretched out at his side to show what the woman looked like as she walked out of the store. "You couldn't see nothing but fire."

Morales said witnesses used two fire extinguishers on the woman, who was on fire about 2½ minutes. All of her clothes except her underwear disappeared into ashes.

After the fire was out, Morales said, the woman walked out of the mall and into the parking lot.

The two men injured helping her were treated at the scene while the woman who helped was taken to a hospital.

The mall remained closed as of late afternoon.



THE MIAMI HERALD/AP

This cell phone picture shows two men using fire extinguishers on a woman who set herself on fire in the Mall of the Americas in Miami on Thursday.

Manson follower freed after 30 years

FORT WORTH, Texas — The Charles Manson follower convicted of trying to assassinate President Gerald Ford was released Friday from a Texas prison hospital after more than three decades behind bars, a prison official said.

Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme was just 26 years old when she pointed a semiautomatic .45-caliber pistol at Ford in September 1975 in Sacramento, Calif. Ford was unhurt.

Fromme, now 60, left the Federal Medical Center Carswell in Fort Worth about 8 a.m. Friday, spokeswoman Dr. Maria Douglas said in a statement.

From The Associated Press


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White House goes viral on health care campaign

Administration uses chain e-mail to counter critics

BY ERICA WERNER
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama's push to revamp health care got a boost Thursday as a new coalition of drugmakers, unions, hospitals and others launched a \$12 million pro-overhaul ad campaign.

Meanwhile, the administration sought to regain control of the health care debate by asking supporters to forward a chain e-mail to counter criticism that's circu-

lating on the Internet. The e-mail by White House senior adviser David Axelrod offers reasons to support Obama's agenda — and myths to debunk.

Axelrod wrote that opponents are relying on tactics including "viral e-mails that fly unchecked and under the radar, spreading all sorts of lies."

"So let's start a chain e-mail of our own," he said, inviting supporters to forward a message countering claims that Obama's

plans would lead to rationing, encourage euthanasia or deplete veterans' health care.

The new ad airing in a dozen states is being paid for by a new coalition called Americans for Stable Quality Care. Members of the group are Families USA, the Service Employees International Union, the drug lobby Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, the American Medical Association and the Federation of American Hospitals.

The ad shows a series of photos of doctors and nurses interacting with patients as the narrator asks: "What does health insurance reform mean for you? It means you can't be denied coverage for a pre-existing condition, or dropped if you get sick." The ad also cites lowered costs and a focus on prevention, among other things.

Even as public skepticism over Democrats' health overhaul plan boils over at town hall meetings nationwide, the ad is the latest example of the odd-bedfellows help that Obama is getting in his plea to Congress to enact comprehensive legislation to lower costs and extend coverage to the nearly 50 million uninsured.

"This is really focused on what has been an increasing emphasis for almost all supporters of health care reform, namely trying to make sure families around the country understand the benefits of health reform for them — especially middle-class families that already do have health insurance," said Ron Pollack, executive director of Families USA, a liberal advocacy group.

Palin stands behind 'death panels' claim

BY MATTHEW DALY
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin held to her claim that a proposed health care over-

haul would create "death panels," as the growing furor over end-of-life consultations forced a key group of senators to abandon the idea in their bill.

Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, one of six lawmakers negotiating on a Senate bill, said Thursday they had dropped end-of-life provisions from consideration "entirely because of the way they could be misinterpreted and implemented incorrectly."

In a Facebook posting called "Troubling Questions Remain About Obama's Health Care Plan," Palin said that "it's gratifying that the voice of the people is getting through to Congress; however, that provision was not the only disturbing detail in this legislation; it was just one of the more obvious ones."

In an earlier Facebook posting, Palin argued that the elderly and ailing would be coerced into accepting minimal end-of-life care to reduce health care costs based on the Democratic bill in the House.

But there will be no "death panels" under the legislation being considered. In fact, the provision in the bill would allow Medicare to pay doctors for voluntary counseling sessions that address end-of-life issues. The conversations between doctor and patient would include living wills, making a

close relative or a trusted friend your health care proxy, learning about hospice as an option for the terminally ill and information about pain medications for people suffering chronic discomfort.

The sessions would be covered every five years, more frequently if someone is gravely ill.

The American Medical Association and the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization support the provision.

In a Wednesday posting, Palin wrote: "With all due respect, it's misleading for the president to describe this section as an entirely voluntary provision that simply increases the information offered to Medicare recipients." She added, "It's all just more evidence that the Democratic legislative proposals will lead to health care rationing."

The issue is no longer viable for the six members of the Senate Finance Committee — three Republicans and three Democrats — working on a bipartisan bill, according to Grassley.

In a statement, he criticized the House bill, saying there was a difference between a "simple education campaign, as some advocates want," and paying "physicians to advise patients about end-of-life care."

The provisions remain in the House bill.

Palin's posting came one day after Republican Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska said that Palin and other critics were not helping the GOP by tossing out false claims.

Portions of the Democratic health care bills "are bad enough that we don't need to be making things up," Murkowski said, invoking a phrase that Palin used in her resignation speech, when she asked the news media to "quit making things up."



A posting on the White House Web site aims to debunk what administration officials are calling misinformation about President Barack Obama's health reform agenda.

Britons angered by criticism from U.S. about their health care

BY MEERA SELVA
The Associated Press

LONDON — Britons reacted with outrage Friday at American criticism of the country's health care system and defended their cradle-to-grave medical coverage on Twitter, television and in the tabloids.

Attacks on President Barack Obama's health reform plans have struck a nerve in

Britain, where residents broadly take for granted their universal coverage under the state-funded National Health Service — and look askance at the millions of Americans without insurance.

"Land of the Fee," declared the Daily Mirror in reference to the United States' high-charging health model. The London newspaper called the "lies and distortions" being circulated in the United States

about the National Health Service "truly sickening."

"Jaw droppingly untruthful," said the British Medical Association's chairman, Hamish Meldrum.

"NHS often makes the difference between pain and comfort, despair and hope, life and death," Prime Minister Gordon Brown tweeted. "Thanks for always being there."

The NHS, founded in 1948, is the cornerstone of the United Kingdom's welfare state.

About 12 percent of the UK's 61 million residents have private insurance, but the vast majority rely on state-funded emergency care, surgery and access to family doctors. Even those who complain about the system say they want it improved, not dismantled.

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October						
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 **THE NEW SANNO**

Shriver remembered as agent of change

By RUSSELL CONTRERAS
The Associated Press

HYANNIS, Mass. — The Special Olympics torch led a procession for Eunice Kennedy Shriver past thousands of onlookers as friends, family and athletes from the movement she founded gathered for her funeral Friday.

Shriver, widely credited with changing the world's perception of the mentally disabled, died Tuesday at age 88. Her only living brother, Sen. Edward Kennedy, who has been battling brain cancer, did not attend the funeral.

Loretta Claiborne, a former Special Olympics athlete and longtime friend of Shriver's, delivered welcoming remarks at St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church.

"She was chosen to have a life to serve others, the weakest of the weak, the castaways, the throwaways of society, at the time they would say the mentally retarded, and I am one of those people," Claiborne said.

Shriver's grandchildren each offered prayers — giving thanks to her for teaching them to sail, for insisting girls are equal to boys, and for the lesson of helping those in need.

Shriver's daughter, Maria Shriver, and her son-in-law, California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, and other family members carried the casket into the church after a funeral procession moved slowly past thousands of people who lined the streets. Shriver and Schwarzenegger were married in the same church 23 years earlier.

Shriver's husband, R. Sargent Shriver, a 1972 vice presidential candidate, also was at the service.

The crowds of people outside, including residents, tourists and Special Olympians, were largely silent for the procession as the church bell rang and a lone bagpipe whined.

The procession was led by law enforcement and athletes, including Marguerite Heffernan, of Harwich, a Special Olympian in 1968, and her 27-year-old son Shawn, from Orleans, who carried the Special Olympics torch.

"It was great," said Shawn Heffernan, who has won 49 swimming medals. "I'd done it before, but this was different."

His mother held her swimming medals from 1971 and recalled the impact Shriver had made on

their lives.

"She helped open doors," she said. "We gained freedom from hiding."

The funeral Mass was shown live on television, but only those who were invited were allowed inside the church.

Among the guests were Vice President Joe Biden, Oprah Winfrey, Jon Bon Jovi, Stevie Wonder and Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick.



Members of the Shriver family, including Anthony Shriver, left, his sister Maria, front right, and her husband, California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, bear the casket of Eunice Kennedy Shriver at Saint Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church on Friday in Barnstable, Mass.

ELISE AMENDOLA/AP



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FAA: Controller on phone during Hudson crash

By JOAN LOWY
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — An air traffic controller who was making a personal phone call when a small plane and a helicopter collided over New York's Hudson River has been removed from duty along with his supervisor, who was out of the building at the time.

The Federal Aviation Administration said in a statement Thursday that a controller at Teterboro Airport in New Jersey and his supervisor have been placed on administrative leave after the controller was found to be involved in "apparently inappropriate conversations" at the time of the crash between a small plane and a tour helicopter that killed nine people.

The agency said while there was no reason to believe thus far that the employees' actions contributed to the accident, such "conduct is unacceptable." The controller had handed off the monitoring of the small plane involved in the collision to another airport shortly before the plane collided with a tour helicopter.

The two employees, who were not identified, were placed on administrative leave with pay. The FAA said it has begun disciplinary proceedings against the pair. Three members of a Pennsylvania family on the plane and five Italian tourists and a pilot

on the helicopter were killed when the two stricken aircraft plunged into the river.

The FAA said the supervisor also was not in the building at the time, as required.

The controller had cleared the small plane, a single-engine Piper, for takeoff and then made a personal call to a woman, said sources familiar with the investigation, who asked not to be named because they weren't authorized to speak publicly.

While still on the phone, the controller handed off the Piper to the control tower at Newark Liberty International Airport, which monitors low-flying air traffic over the Hudson but doesn't actively try to keep aircraft separated, they said. The controller was still on the phone when the accident occurred. This sequence of events lasted only a few minutes.

National Transportation Safety Board and FAA investigators learned of the telephone conversation earlier this week while examining recordings of telephone calls on a landline phone in the tower that controllers use to communicate with other parts of the Teterboro Airport. The employee made his personal call on that landline.

Air traffic controllers are expected to be alert at all times while on duty and typically are given about a 15-minute break roughly every two hours for that reason.



MEL EVANS/AP

A diver jumps into the Hudson River, off Hoboken, N.J., on Wednesday in search of wreckage after Saturday's midair collision in which nine people were killed. Records show an air traffic controller was taking a personal phone call during the collision.

New York City skies have long history of close calls in midair

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — When a plane collided with a helicopter over the Hudson River last week, it was only the second time in decades that crowded skies near Manhattan led to a midair crash.

But an Associated Press review of pilots' safety reports found many more near-misses

in the airspace in recent years, including several near the Statue of Liberty.

Almost all the incidents involved small aircraft flying at low altitude in an area where pilots pick their own routes and watch for conflicts without help from air traffic controllers.

In 2006, the pilot of a prop

plane headed south for a sightseeing swing around the Statue of Liberty said he may have inadvertently passed just 50 feet above a helicopter flying a similar route.

In 1998, the pilot of an air taxi headed to LaGuardia Airport reported that he came within 200 feet to 300 feet of being clipped by a Cessna.

One pilot complained about a

harrowing 1996 flight down the Hudson to his home airport in Linden, N.J. He had three close calls in 20 minutes.

"Do we need another midair before the FAA ... gets its act together," he wrote.

Pilots provided the accounts of near-misses through the Aviation Safety Reporting System, which allows fliers and air traffic controllers to voluntarily and

anonymously disclose incidents they felt involved a safety risk.

A database of those reports reviewed included at least 11 incidents filed since 1990 that described aircraft coming close over the Hudson.

There were additional close calls between helicopters and planes reported in 2001, 2000, 1995, 1994 and 1996.

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Extra crews to battle Calif. wildfires

More firefighters, better weather help keep blazes from spreading

By BROOKE DONALD

The Associated Press

DAVENPORT, Calif. — Crews battling wildfires across California are getting more manpower and some help from Mother Nature after the blazes forced thousands of people to leave their homes in the Santa Cruz Mountains.

The Lockheed Fire, which has been burning since Wednesday, blackened about 2,800 acres — or 4.4 square miles — in Santa Cruz County, according to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

Authorities ordered a mandatory evacuation Thursday for the entire community of Bonny Doon, which has about 2,000 residents and several wineries, as the fire threatened more than 1,000 homes and other buildings.

The blaze, about 10 miles north

of the coastal city of Santa Cruz, was burning in "rural, inaccessible, steep terrain with vegetation that has been stressed by the drought," CalFire spokeswoman Julie Hutchinson said.

It was about three miles from the site of last June's Martin Fire, which burned 520 acres and destroyed 11 buildings in Bonny Doon.

The area's rugged terrain and limited access was making it difficult for the hundreds of firefighters currently at the scene, CalFire spokesman Mike Mohler said, but more firefighters, six helicopters and six fixed-wing aircraft were expected Friday.

Higher humidity from overnight forecasts of fog and light wind was also welcome news to ground crews that Mohler told the Monterey Herald would be concentrating on keeping the fire from spreading.



NOAH BERGER/AP

A firefighter hoses down a structure in Santa Cruz County, Calif., on Thursday.

"It was burning within the interior of where the fire is," Mohler said. "The fire didn't move forward ... It's absolutely great news."

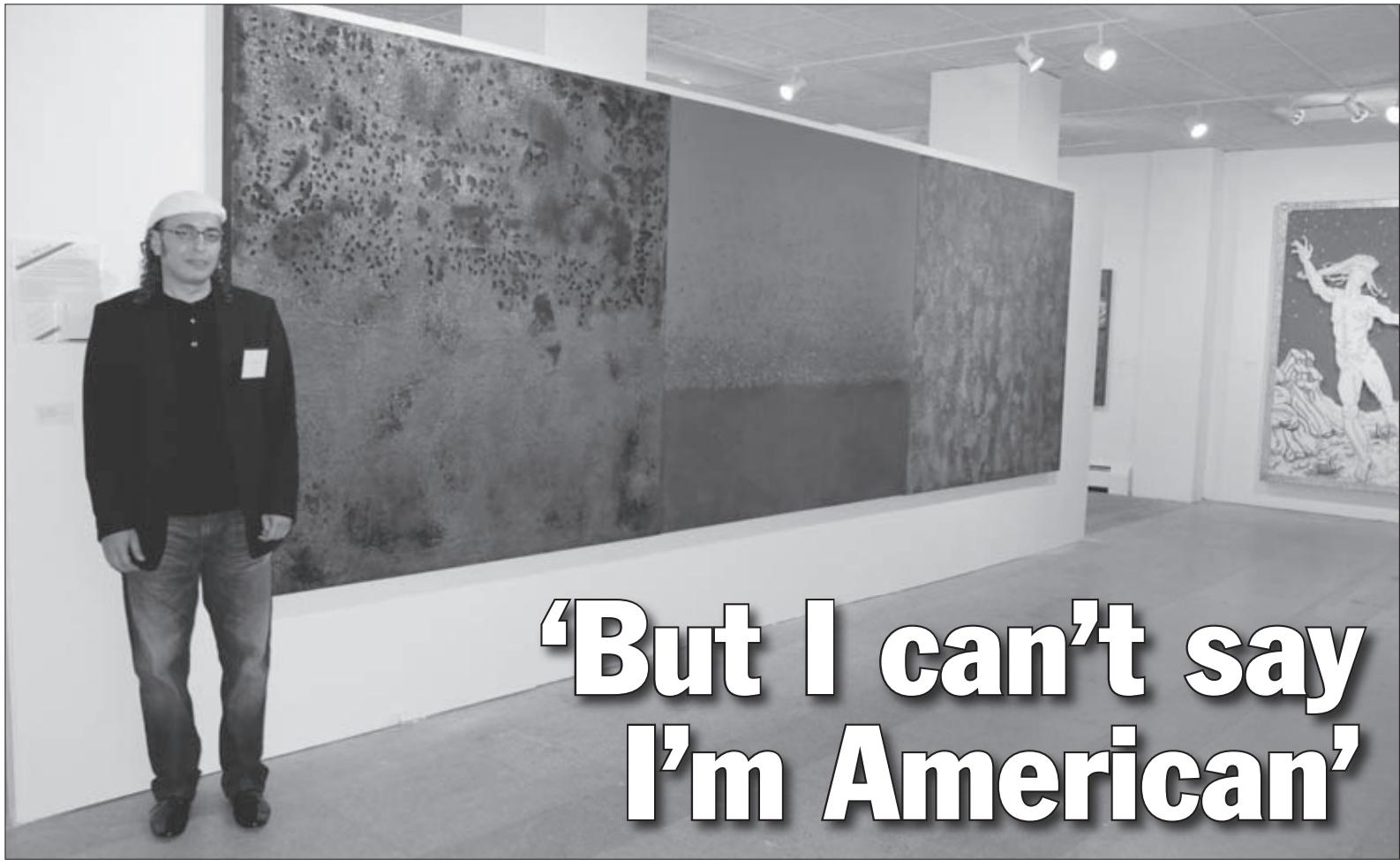
There were no reports of injuries related to the fire, whose cause is under investigation, CalFire spokesman Daniel Berlant said.

Resident Nancy Macallister said she was disappointed about the mandatory evacuation but added that officials were "trying to keep people safe."

Pentagon
CHANNEL

TV Listing

Central Europe	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
12:00 AM	This Week in the Pentagon	Special Event Encore	-				
12:30 AM	Army Newswatch	This Week in the Pentagon	FNG	This Week in the Pentagon	Recon	DownRange	Grill Sergeants, The
01:00 AM	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty
01:30 AM	DownRange	Around the Services	This Week in the Pentagon				
02:00 AM	-	Recon Revisited	FNG	Recon Revisited	Recon Revisited	Recon Revisited	USARJ This Week
02:30 AM	-	State Department Daily Briefing	Grill Sergeants, The	FNG			
03:00 AM	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty
03:30 AM	FNG	AFN Europe Report	Battleground				
03:45 AM	-	Pacific Report	-				
04:00 AM	This Week in the Pentagon	This Week in the Pentagon	Recon	Grill Sergeants, The	FNG	FNG	Recon Revisited
04:30 AM	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty
05:00 AM	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground
05:30 AM	Exchange On Air	Around the Services	Today's Air Force				
06:00 AM	All Hands TV	Special Event Encore	FNG				
06:30 AM	This Week in the Pentagon	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	Army Newswatch
07:00 AM	Recon Revisited	FNG	AFN Europe Report	AFN Europe Report	AFN Europe Report	AFN Europe Report	AFN Europe Report
07:15 AM	-	Pacific Report	-				
07:30 AM	American Veteran, The	Recon	EXchange On Air	Recon	Balad and Beyond	Recon Revisited	Grill Sergeants, The
08:00 AM	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty
08:30 AM	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground
09:00 AM	This Week in the Pentagon	Tour of Duty	Today's Air Force	American Veteran, The	Grill Sergeants, The	Army Newswatch	Ft Hood On Track
09:30 AM	Army Newswatch	This Week in the Pentagon	Recon	Recon Revisited	FNG	EXchange On Air	This Week in the Pentagon
10:00 AM	Grill Sergeants, The	VA News	Around the Services	Around the Services	Around the Services	Around the Services	Recon
10:15 AM	-	Pacific Report	-	-	-	-	-
10:30 AM	USARJ This Week	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	Recon Revisited
11:00 AM	Recon	EXchange On Air	This Week in the Pentagon	Ft Hood On Track	This Week in the Pentagon	Today's Air Force	Army Newswatch
11:30 AM	FNG	Army Newswatch	FNG	Today's Air Force	American Veteran, The	All Hands TV	This Week in the Pentagon
12:00 PM	Today's Air Force	Special Event Encore	Grill Sergeants, The				
12:30 PM	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty
01:00 PM	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground
01:30 PM	Recon Revisited	Recon	Recon Revisited	Recon	Recon Revisited	Recon Revisited	Balad and Beyond
02:00 PM	This Week in the Pentagon	This Week in the Pentagon	Around the Services	Around the Services	Around the Services	Around the Services	All Hands TV
02:30 PM	National Guard News	Grill Sergeants, The	Pacific Report	Pacific Report	Pacific Report	Pacific Report	Pacific Report
02:45 PM	-	AFN Europe Report	AFN Europe Report				
03:00 PM	Around the Services	Special Event Encore	Army Newswatch				
03:30 PM	Around the Services	Recon Revisited	USARJ This Week	This Week in the Pentagon	Grill Sergeants, The	All Hands TV	Today's Air Force
04:00 PM	Around the Services	Today's Air Force	Grill Sergeants, The	Tour of Duty	Army Newswatch	Today's Air Force	Recon
04:30 PM	Around the Services	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	This Week in the Pentagon
05:00 PM	Around the Services	Pacific Report	This Week in the Pentagon	EXchange On Air	This Week in the Pentagon	Recon	FNG
05:15 PM	-	AFN Europe Report	-	-	-	-	-
05:30 PM	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty	Fit for Duty
06:00 PM	Benning Report, The	Grill Sergeants, The	Recon	Today's Air Force	American Veteran, The	Grill Sergeants, The	Around the Services
06:30 PM	Grill Sergeants, The	Around the Services	Around the Services				
07:00 PM	VA News	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	Around the Services
07:15 PM	Pacific Report	-	-	-	-	-	-
07:30 PM	This Week in the Pentagon	All Hands TV	Today's Air Force	This Week in the Pentagon	All Hands TV	AFN Europe Report	Around the Services
07:45 PM	-	-	-	-	-	Pacific Report	-
08:00 PM	Army Newswatch	Recon	Recon Revisited	Grill Sergeants, The	Recon Revisited	EXchange On Air	Around the Services
08:30 PM	FNG	State Department Daily Briefing	1st Air Force Now				
09:00 PM	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground	Battleground
09:30 PM	Today's Air Force	Around the Services	National Guard News				
10:00 PM	Recon	Today's Air Force	Army Newswatch	All Hands TV	Ft Hood On Track	This Week in the Pentagon	This Week in the Pentagon
10:30 PM	American Veteran, The	American Veteran, The	This Week in the Pentagon	Recon	This Week in the Pentagon	Pacific Report	Benning Report, The
10:45 PM	-	-	-	-	-	AFN Europe Report	-
11:00 PM	USARJ This Week	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange	DownRange
11:30 PM	Grill Sergeants, The	Around the Services	-				



MCT

'But I can't say I'm American'

Sami Alkarim stands next to his artwork at the Fort Collins Museum of Contemporary Art. Alkarim, a former Iraqi political prisoner, is among a growing number of refugees who have been barred from getting permanent residency in the United States because of a broad interpretation of post-Sept. 11 laws. Alkarim, who was tortured almost every day for three years in a prison run by Saddam Hussein, can't get his green card because of work he did as a teenager for the same political party that counts the current prime minister of Iraq as a member.

Refugees welcomed in America, but branded as terrorists

BY MARISA TAYLOR
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Almost every day for three years, prison guards at one of Saddam Hussein's most notorious prisons tortured Sami Alkarim.

Now, in a cruel twist of fate, the accomplished Iraqi artist is being treated like a terrorist by the U.S., the country where he sought refuge.

U.S. officials have told him they can't give him permanent residency in Denver because of messenger work he did as a teenager for the same political party that counts the current prime minister of Iraq as a member.

Alkarim's problems have their roots in post-Sept. 11 anti-terrorism laws that the Obama and Bush administrations vowed to fix.

Despite that pledge, the number of people who have been told their requests for refugee status, asylum or green cards won't be processed because of the laws has risen from 5,304 in December to 7,286 in June.

The broad language of the Patriot Act and other laws bars refugees and asylum seekers from living and working in the U.S. if they supported or were members of an armed group in their homelands. They are considered terrorists or supporters of terrorists even if they opposed dictators or helped the U.S. government.

Although Congress has attempted to give the executive branch the power to grant waivers in such cases, the Obama

administration, like the Bush administration before it, has yet to set up an efficient way to handle them, refugee advocates say.

"As far as I can tell, the situation has only grown worse," said Thomas Ragsdale, a former Justice Department lawyer attorney who now represents several immigrants affected by the laws. Ragsdale's clients include an Iraqi, an Ethiopian, a Nepali and a Burmese.

Department of Homeland Security officials in charge of reviewing the matter declined a request for an interview.

Matthew Chandler, a DHS spokesman, said the department has granted more than 10,500 waivers to people affected by the laws, proof that the cases aren't being ignored.

"While the department views this achievement as significant, we also understand that a more efficient authorization process than the one that has been in place would reach even more people," he said.

DHS is working with other agencies, such as the State Department, to come up with a solution that also would weigh U.S. security interests, he said.

Immigrants and their lawyers, however, remain mystified by the government's inability to cut through the red tape to eliminate such problems. Many of the waivers were given to Burmese refugees, while other worthy refugees and asylum seekers are overlooked, advocates said.

"I can't tell how much of this madness is policy and how much of it is just mad-

ness," said Anwen Hughes, the senior counsel for Human Rights First's Refugee Protection Program.

Previously, immigrants who were denied a green card after being given asylum were told they wouldn't be deported. Officials said their cases would eventually be resolved.

However, the DHS began recently sending some immigrants letters informing them that the agency intends to revoke their asylum. As a result, they would be deported.

The cases include immigrants who were granted asylum after fleeing Zimbabwe as members of the Movement for Democratic Change, the main opponent of autocrat Robert Mugabe. In June, President Barack Obama met with the leader of the party, Morgan Tsvangirai, and praised him for his courage.

Some of the most startling stories involve Iraqis — some of whom have worked for the U.S. government under threat of death and now could have even more to fear as U.S. troops are redeployed.

In one recent case, a middle-aged Iraqi mother of two teenagers was deemed a terrorist and barred from the U.S. despite her work for the State Department as an economic development adviser.

Anna, as she is known by her American colleagues, is seen as a supporter of terrorism because of her work for the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, a mainstream Iraqi political party that the current president of Iraq belongs to. She's

no longer active in the party.

Anonymous callers have warned her that they'd take revenge for her work for the U.S. government.

Now, she wonders in a phone call from Iraq punctuated by sirens and static, "What will be my future?"

Army Lt. Col. Dennis Chapman, who worked with her when he was the chief of a military transition team in the Kurdish region of Iraq, said he doesn't understand why the U.S. government would reject someone who has proved to be an ally in need of help.

"It's an absurd finding," he said. "It deprives the word 'terrorism' of any meaning."

Alkarim, who fled as a refugee to the U.S. in February 2001, can't work or travel, even though his wife and children have already become U.S. citizens.

Recently, Alkarim's artwork was selected to be shown at Italy's Biennial of Florence, which bills itself as one of the largest exhibition of contemporary art in the world.

His abstract expressionist paintings were considered subversive by Saddam Hussein's regime — one of the reasons he was imprisoned.

His artwork will be displayed in December without him, however, because he doesn't have his green card. He said he also has had to turn down invitations to galleries in Switzerland, Dubai, France and London.

"It would be an honor to represent the United States," the 43-year-old said. "But I can't say I'm American."

FACES

A new Kardashian is on the way

Kourtney Kardashian has a baby on the way. The 30-year-old reality TV star said in an appearance Thursday on NBC's "Today" show that she's due in December. Kardashian says the father is her on-again boyfriend Scott Disick, who appeared on the E! series "Keeping Up With the Kardashians."

Kardashian says she and Disick are "really happy" being together again. They broke up last year on the show.

Kardashian appears with her family on "Keeping Up With the Kardashians." She and her sister Khloe co-star in the E! spinoff show, "Kourtney and Khloe Take Miami."

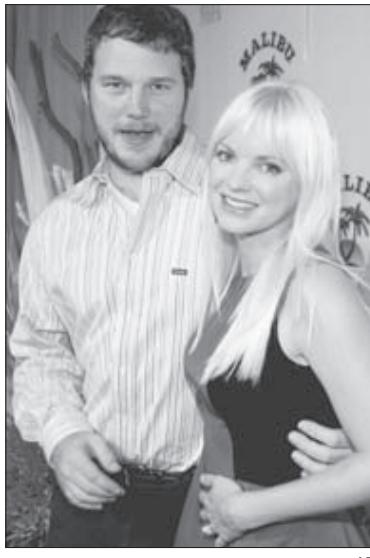
All Emmys to be shown

The television academy is scrapping its "time-shifting" plans and will present all 28 Emmy Awards during the Sept. 20 telecast.

The Academy of Television Arts & Sciences announced last month that it would pre-tape eight awards presentations and acceptance speeches, including some in the writing category. Members of the Writers Guild of America and Screen Actors Guild issued separate statements Wednesday applauding the decision.



Kardashian



AP

Chris Pratt and Anna Faris were recently married in Bali.

The academy says the decision was made to "mend relationships within the television community" and allow the telecast producer to focus on "creative elements" during the live show.

The Writers Guild of America and Screen Actors Guild issued separate statements Wednesday applauding the decision.

Faris, Pratt wed

"The House Bunny" star Anna Faris has married her fiancé, actor Chris Pratt.

A publicist for Faris confirms that the two were wed in Bali on July 9. People.com was the first to report the news.

The couple became engaged last year.

Victoria Beckham gets callback as 'Idol' judge

Victoria Beckham seems to be getting used to filling a fourth judge chair on "American Idol," left vacant by Paula Abdul's departure.

The former Spice Girl — Posh — was in Boston on Thursday to help judge callbacks for contestants who tried out and were invited back for another round, Fox publicist Alex Gillespie said. Beckham was a guest judge Aug. 7 for auditions in Denver, and it was originally described as a one-time appearance.

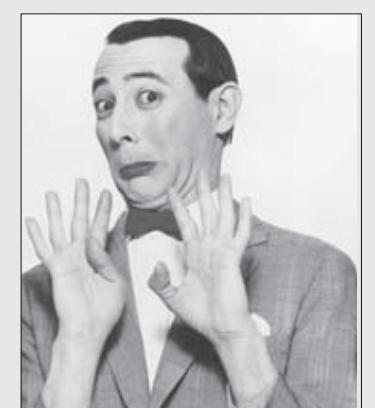
This is the point of the show where judges give singers a golden ticket to advance to the Hollywood round.

Last week in Denver, Beckham told Fox News she was a huge fan of "American Idol" and nervous about being a judge. "My heart is about to jump out my throat," she said.

She also said she was looking forward to any criticisms Simon Cowell may have for her.

"I have a British sense of humor. I'm quite welcoming to it," Beckham said.

— The Associated Press



Pee-wee Herman (aka Paul Reubens), star of an '80s movie and children's television show, makes a return — this time to the stage.

Pee-wee's big return

The red bow tie. The form-fitting gray suit. The white loafers. Oh, and that laugh. Pee-wee Herman is back and his creator, Paul Reubens, is overjoyed — and more than a little bit nervous.

"I've put part of him away for a long time, but part of him has always been here with me," the soft-spoken actor said in an interview from his home in L.A. "I think it will be like riding a bike — which is not a bad analogy for Pee-wee, by the way."

But he added: "I have some fear that he won't be funny after all this time. I don't want to ruin it."

After a hiatus of close to 20 years, Reubens announced that he would be playing Pee-wee in a new stage show in Hollywood. The production, titled "The Pee-wee Herman Show" and set to run Nov. 19-29, is a re-imagined version of the actor's original theatrical show of the same name that began in 1981. It played at the Roxy in L.A. for five months in the early '80s and helped bring Pee-wee national recognition, including an HBO special and the 1985 film "Pee-wee's Big Adventure," directed by Tim Burton.

The show will feature the same story line as the original: Pee-wee, a nerdy man-child with a colorful menagerie of anthropomorphic friends, is granted a wish to learn to fly but gives the wish away, much to his eventual regret. Reubens said he has revised parts of the story to include new songs as well as characters from his popular CBS television series, "Pee-wee's Playhouse."

In one notable change, a character played on stage by the late comedian Phil Hartman has been replaced with another character. "I didn't want to be looking at someone else playing Phil's part," Reubens, 56, said.

Among the characters familiar from the TV series that will appear on stage will be Pee-wee's talking chair, Chairry, and his friend Pterri, the pterodactyl.

The actor has spent the last 10 years mostly in guest-star roles on television, like his recent stint on NBC's "30 Rock." He has also acted in a few indie films, including "Blow" and the upcoming "Life During Wartime" and "Nailed."

— David Ng/Los Angeles Times

'TWILIGHT' BARBIES



Don't think of "Twilight" and Barbies in the same sentence? Characters Bella Swan, left, and Edward Cullen from the popular vampire saga are available in doll form in November.

"I don't have a chance."

— actor Brad Pitt, when asked about the "Brad Pitt for Mayor" T-shirts that many New Orleans residents have been wearing for at least the past two months

— The Associated Press



AP

"I'm so scared. You have no idea. I can tap-dance, but I don't know if I can make kids learn yet."

— Tony Danza, who will co-teach a 10th-grade English class for a reality TV show to air stateside this fall

— The Associated Press



AP

"I can't say that I think you're right, at all."

— Kate Gosselin of "Jon and Kate Plus 8," when pressed by talk-show host Regis Philbin on whether she would ever reconcile with estranged hubby Jon Gosselin. Philbin said he had a sense the marriage could be saved.

— The Associated Press



AP

Walter Scott's Personality PARADE

Q When a TV show ends, what happens to the props, etc.? — Dae Thompson, Marietta, Ga.

A Actors and crew often ask to buy props and wardrobe, and charity auctions for such items have become popular. The items' value, of course, depends on the show's success — think "Star Trek" or "ER." Bids on Dr. Doug Ross' stethoscope, anyone?

Q Mariah Carey has an amazing vocal range, but Linda Ronstadt is no slouch either. Who has a better range? — StaceyLee King, Jupiter, Fla.

A Well, "better" is in the ears of the listener, and sheer range isn't necessarily the mark of a great singer. Carey can definitely get up into bird-whistle territory. Linda Ronstadt doesn't go there, but runs the gamut from contralto to coloratura. Pay your money, take your choice. We applaud them both.

Q How did Mayim Bialik avoid the negative path so many other child stars have trod? — J. Jack (no city given)

A "Just by being a nerd!" the former "Blossom" star tells us. "For me, going to school was a smart thing — it took me out of all that." Did we mention that Bialik, 33, has a Ph.D. in neuroscience? And that come January she'll play a quirky guidance counselor on ABC's "The Secret Life of the American Teenager"? Will the credits bill her as Dr. Bialik? Stay tuned. See other stars who took a break from acting for college at Parade.com/college.

Q During the 40th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing, Buzz Aldrin was everywhere, but I did not see one current interview with Neil Armstrong. Was I under a rock? — Joe Hodnik, Olathe, Kan.

A You were not under a moon rock — or any other variety. Armstrong, 79, besieged with attention for the last four decades, has chosen to remain as private a citizen as possible. The first man on the moon did visit the White House (with fellow Apollo 11 crewmates Aldrin and Michael Collins) and made a few other appearances to celebrate the anniversary, but he gave the press the brush-off. Any Armstrong "exclusive interview" was in fact several years old.

Q In the 1988 movie "Satisfaction," Julia Roberts played the bass left-handed. Is she truly a southpaw? — Thomas Salvador, Lapeer, Mich.

A Yes. And other left-handed actresses include Carol Burnett, Lisa Kudrow, Diane Keaton and Sarah Jessica Parker. Nobel Prize-winning psychobiologist Roger Sperry and other scientists have theorized that

brain differences in lefties may allow them to multi-task and be more creative. Sounds right to us.

Q I don't remember a president's son in the White House since John-John Kennedy. My husband says that can't be right. Who is correct? — Geraldine Aylward, North Dartmouth, Mass.

A Is there a wager involved? We assume you mean a son living in the White House, in which case you win: Every president after JFK has either had only daughters (Johnson, Nixon, Clinton, George W. Bush, Obama) or sons of at least college age — who weren't at home full time (Ford, Carter, Reagan, George H.W. Bush). Your husband may have eked out a draw on the wording, though. See photos of First Kids at Parade.com/kids.

Q Whatever happened to Fats Domino? He hasn't been in the news since his New Orleans home was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. — Ray Carney, Cypress, Texas

A The great R&B singer-pianist ("Blueberry Hill"), songwriter, and recluse Antoine Dominique Domino, at first rumored dead in the 2005 calamity, is still loving life at age 81. His house is being rebuilt, and in May he made a surprise (though nonperforming) appearance at The Domino Effect, a benefit for Katrina victims named in his honor.



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Want the facts? Opinions? Truth? Send questions to Walter Scott at Box 5001, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y. 10163-5001. Full name will be used unless otherwise requested. Volume of mail makes personal replies impossible.

AP photos

Above: Who's got a greater range — Mariah Carey, at top, or Linda Ronstadt, bottom? Carey's queen of the higher registers, but Ronstadt has demonstrated her voice to be quite versatile.



AP
Wonder no longer: Actress Julia Roberts is, indeed, left-handed.

Sunday Horoscope

The moon shifts from Gemini into Cancer, turning up the need to get domestic life in decent — or better yet perfect — working order. It's not just about making sure the chores get done; it's about taking our environment to the next level of comfort, security and beauty. A nurturing home enables us to be all we can be in the outside world.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You'll be presented with a task that someone else failed at. This isn't "sloppy seconds" but, in fact, a lucky break. Your temperament is perfectly suited to this job and so for you, it will be fun.

TAURUS (April 20-May 19). Those who come to you to be consoled may wish they had visited at Libra or Aquarius instead. You're inclined to state the truth and you're not overly concerned with how it will land either.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Strong emotions come as a reaction to reading a book or watching a show. It's nice when a story can make you understand the depth of your own heart. It's also nice that your real life is in a relatively serene place.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Take your time and make sure you understand everything that's going on around you. Ask questions. You'll move slowly toward a realization, and "slowly" is the only speed that will lead you there.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Get out with old friends and do new things. You'll be reminded how charming your friends are. It will be pleasing to see them interact with those you don't know.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You could separate your own views from a teacher's views, part ways with a guru or decide to mentor yourself instead of follow another. The break is good for you. You'll see the world with new eyes.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It's not enough to hear that you are

Holiday Mathis



important and appreciated. It needs to be represented in the actions that others take. You have nothing to gain from lip service. Make it known that you accept only true respect.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).

Just because you do a job well doesn't mean you should do it forever. It's time for you to teach someone to take over certain responsibilities. Teenagers in particular need more to do.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).

For you to be happy, you must be involved with others. A heavenly mindset enraptures you when you're too busy interacting, exchanging and creating to be concerned with yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).

Nothing is inherently serious or meaningful until you decide it is. Realizing this, you have compassion for others who are making a big deal over something they care about. You'll refrain from judging.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).

"What were they thinking?" is the theme of the day. You'll witness unlikely pairings and confusing actions. You usually sense the motives of others, but after what you see today, you'll be almost too puzzled to guess.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).

This is not time for theorizing. Don't settle for hearing about life or imagining what it might be like to do something. Find out firsthand. Dig into life and gobble it up. You can't digest without eating.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (AUGUST 16).

You'll go into this year on an emotional high. With great ease, you continue to ascend the mood of whatever circumstance you find yourself in, even if it is already quite good. September brings more pleasantries in the form of good friends and glamorous work. A getaway in March is for a noble cause. Aquarius and Sagittarius adore you.

Creators.com

SUDOKU

Difficulty: Hard

Fill in the boxes so that each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. For solution, tips and computer program, see www.sudoku.com

Yesterday's solution

7	6	8	4	5	2	1	3	9
1	5	2	7	3	9	8	4	6
3	9	4	1	6	8	5	7	2
5	2	7	8	9	6	3	1	4
8	3	9	2	1	4	7	6	5
6	4	1	5	7	3	9	2	8
4	7	5	9	2	1	6	8	3
9	8	6	3	4	7	2	5	1
2	1	3	6	8	5	4	9	7

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Mom balks at daughter's plan to host sales party

Dear Abby: My daughter, "Amelia," recently joined the ranks of a "direct sales force." She has asked me to make arrangements so she can present her products to my circle of friends. I love Amelia beyond words and would do anything to support her, but I told her that in this instance I felt I would be betraying my friends by "using" their friendship.

In my opinion, hosting a "party" for the purpose of selling makes the invitees feel obligated to buy something whether they need it or not.

I told Amelia I don't want to put my friends in that position.

My daughter took immediate offense and told me I was way off-base because attendees are "free to purchase products — or not — as they choose." In other words, I'm the one with the hang-up and it isn't necessarily shared by others.

It upsets me terribly that my daughter is now angry and thinks I have abandoned her because I'm uncomfortable supporting this effort.

She has another successful career, so this venture is not a mat-

ter of financial life or death to her. What should I do?

In a Tough Spot in Illinois

Dear In A Spot: Direct sales companies are rapidly expanding their forces these days, in light of the recession. And many people regard it as an attractive opportunity to replace lost income or hedge against job loss.

According to USA Today, there are now roughly 15 million direct sellers in the United States.

With all that "partying" going on — the objective of which is to sell, sell, sell — many people have wised up to the fact they are promotional rather than social in nature and refuse the invitations.

I see nothing wrong with inviting your friends, as long as they understand, in advance, the purpose of the party as well as the fact that you won't be personally offended if they do not choose to participate.

Dear Abby: My husband, "George," wears his false teeth only for church. He puts them in his pocket as soon as the service is over and won't wear them anywhere else. If I say anything, he gets furious and refuses to dis-

to crossing guard.

Instead of spending a year chewing on your lip, you could've spent a week or two smiling at the guy, making eye contact and looking away, playing with your hair, toying with objects around you, and touching his arm (female flirting moves recognized across cultures).

Then it would've been his turn, perhaps to drop mention that he, too, is looking for a boyfriend. If only you'd signaled your interest, even inaction on his part would've been progress — telling you to move on.

Then again, maybe he would've asked you out, and maybe you would've found he's mean to the waitress and twirls his nose hair at the table. Yes, for all you know, you don't even like the guy — the real guy, not the one you've turned into a rock star in your head.

While you could finally give flirting with him a whirl, with the way you've built him up, your best bet is probably meeting new guys and practicing your body language — those little pronunciation tricks that make the difference between "Ask me out" and "Ask me if I'm often constipated."

Got a problem? Write Amy Alkon, 171 Pier Ave., #280, Santa Monica, CA 90405, or email AdviceAmy@aol.com (www.advicegoddess.com)

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Dear Abby



cuss it, even though I tell him it embarrasses me and it should embarrass him, too.

George is upset with the dentist who made the dentures. He went to another dental lab, wore them for one month, and then gave up. He also fusses with his hearing aids, glasses, etc. He's driving me crazy. What should I do?

— Janet in Ohio

Dear Janet: If your husband's dentures were comfortable, he'd wear them. The dentist who made them should be contacted so adjustments can be made until they fit properly. If George won't make the call, do it for him and go along for moral support.

He may also need his vision checked by an ophthalmologist. His glasses may need refitting or replacing — or he may have a condition that should be treated ASAP, so don't put it off. Also, hearing aids take getting used to and the process can be frustrating — especially if your teeth are hurting and you're having difficulty seeing.

Poor George, if you think you're being driven crazy, imagine what he's going through and try to patient.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.uepress.com/dearabby> Universal Press Syndicate

Buddy language: Woman needs to step up to the plate

I have such a crush on my coworker that I actually have to bite down on my lips to keep them from quivering while we talk. Although he seems to enjoy talking with me, he hasn't expressed any interest. I've tried avoiding him and denying my feelings, but I just start obsessing — thinking he's shy, or we don't talk enough, or I get too nervous and he doesn't see the real me. Or, maybe he's shallow, and I'm not pretty enough, blah, blah, blah.

Now, he's moving to a different company, and I feel like I'm losing out. I've been on this for a year, and I'm too scared to say "I like you. Do you like me?"

for guys, that they just say to themselves, "Oh, look! It's human and wearing a bra. I think I'll ask it out!"

Unless you're stunning — in which case, all you have to do is exist in a guy's eyeline — you need to let him know you're open for business; specifically, his. But, you don't just march up and blur out "I like you. Do you like me?" — which is about as alluring as "Drop by some afternoon so I can give you genital herpes."

Asking a guy out is another lousy idea. Men will tell you they're fine with it — just as they're subconsciously knocking you from an 8 to a 3.6 for doing it.

Because sex is more costly for a woman — potentially leading to nine months of pregnancy, then a kid to drag around — women evolved to be the choosier sex and men evolved to value choosy women, and to apply to be chosen.

This isn't to say all the work should be left to men. It's your job to flirt with a guy, signaling that if he asked you out, you wouldn't scream "Rape!", fall on the floor laughing, or report him to Human Resources and have him demot-

Advice Goddess



ed to crossing guard.

Instead of spending a year chewing on your lip, you could've spent a week or two smiling at the guy, making eye contact and looking away, playing with your hair, toying with objects around you, and touching his arm (female flirting moves recognized across cultures).

Then it would've been his turn, perhaps to drop mention that he, too, is looking for a boyfriend. If only you'd signaled your interest, even inaction on his part would've been progress — telling you to move on.

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While you could finally give flirting with him a whirl, with the way you've built him up, your best bet is probably meeting new guys and practicing your body language — those little pronunciation tricks that make the difference between "Ask me out" and "Ask me if I'm often constipated."

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9/11 rookie fireman gets promotion

NY NEW YORK — The New York City fire department is promoting a firefighter whose first day out of the academy was Sept. 11, 2001.

Patrick Connolly is becoming a lieutenant after eight years in the department.

Anthony Sodano also is being promoted to lieutenant. He and other firefighters from Ladder 126 saved four people from a burning house in Queens on April 20.

Connolly and Sodano are among 44 members of the department being promoted at a ceremony.

Woman pleads guilty in grandmother's slaying

VA LEESBURG — A Virginia woman has pleaded guilty in the slaying of her grandmother.

Julie Dong, 19, pleaded guilty to first-degree murder in Loudoun County Circuit Court in the slaying of Hanh Thi Hoang, 66.

Hoang was found dead in a bedroom of her Leesburg townhouse in July 2008.

Julie Dong and her mother, Kim-Phuong Dong, 40, of Leesburg, were arrested in Hoang's missing Honda Accord in New Mexico four days later, and both were later charged with murder.

Prosecutors did not disclose a motive for the killing or how Hoang died.

Last public boat ramp on Lake Travis closes

TX AUSTIN — The last public boat ramp still operating at drought-affected Lake Travis has closed due to dropping water levels.

The Lower Colorado River Authority in Austin says barriers have been erected to block access to the ramp at the Mansfield Dam Recreation Area.

The boat launching point was shut down after staffers discovered dislodged rocks and scrape marks from trailers on some submerged rocks.

11 people arrested in crackdown on meth labs

NH NASHUA — Eleven people have been arrested in southern New Hampshire in a crackdown on meth labs.

Officials said the 11 were charged with conspiracy to make methamphetamine. They include residents of Nashua, Candia and Manchester, as well as three people from Massachusetts. Four meth labs were shut down.

Among those arrested were a mother and daughter from Nashua who police said were making meth in front of the daughter's 11-month-old baby.

Police said they're looking into possible child endangerment charges against the women.

Man gets 12 years in beating death of boy, 4

OH COLUMBUS — A man has been sentenced to 12 years in prison in a beating that killed an Ohio preschool boy.



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Robert Overton III, 22, of Columbus was convicted in June of felonious assault and child endangering. The jury deadlocked on a murder charge.

During the sentencing hearing, Overton denied causing the injuries to Antwan Bowman, 4, the son of his former girlfriend.

Prosecutors said Overton kicked and punched the boy and threw him across a room at his mother's home. Defense attorneys suggested the boy's 13-year-old brother was responsible for the death.

State criticized for blocking DNA probe

NY OVID — Crime investigators faulted the New York state Health Department for blocking efforts to use a sophisticated DNA technique to try to solve the 1985 slaying of a Minnesota college student in central New York.

Kristin O'Connell, 20, was visiting a friend in the Finger Lakes village of Ovid 24 years ago when she vanished after leaving a party to go for a walk. Two days later, searchers found her body in a cornfield with her throat slashed.

State police and Seneca County investigators have been promised up to \$40,000 in county funds to enlist a Dutch forensic team that specializes in so-called "touch DNA" to solve cold-case homicides.



Points for agility

A squirrel sits in a tilted bird feeder and enjoys a meal of bird seed in a backyard in Moreland Hills, Ohio.

But they said state health officials have stymied the effort because the Amsterdam lab isn't certified in New York.

"We feel this is our last, best effort to solve this case," county District Attorney Richard Swinehart said. "We are very frustrated with the bureaucracy of the Department of Health that they won't take a world-leading lab, where the lab people have testified in other states in our country, as experts on homicide cases and won't let them at least examine the evidence while they're being certified."

Man allegedly took 2 fiancees for \$400,000

FL FORT LAUDERDALE — A South Florida man allegedly swindled some \$400,000 from two New York women he was engaged to at the same time.

Authorities say Paul R. Francois, 55, coaxed one to move to Florida after she met him on vacation, and the other into taking out a \$100,000 home equity loan on her Elmont, N.Y., place.

Francois was arrested on two counts of first-degree theft and one of organized scheme to defraud.

Investigators say both women thought they'd spend the rest of their lives with Francois. When they started asking questions about the money, he allegedly hit one and threatened to kill the other.

Man pleads not guilty to naked doorbell ringing

CA REDWOOD CITY — A man suspected of appearing nude at homes and ringing doorbells is being held on \$60,000 bail after pleading not guilty to a series of charges.

Peter Allen Steele, who is 6 feet 7 inches tall and weighs 250 pounds, entered his not-guilty pleas after being charged with seven counts, including driving under the influence, evading a peace officer, indecent exposure and entering a house without permission.

Authorities say Steele, 38, led San Mateo County sheriff's deputies on a car chase on July 11 that ended with him streaking into a home and then into woods near Redwood City.

Deputies say it took a Taser and two shots from a bean bag gun to bring him down.

Sex offenders sue over Internet posting plans

VT MONTPELIER — Two convicted sex offenders are suing the state over plans to post their names on the Internet as part of Vermont's expanded sex offender registry.

Vermont Public Radio reports the lawsuit says the public posting violates the offenders' rights by punishing them again for a crime for which they've already served time.

Starting Oct. 1, the state sex offender registry will include people who have been convicted of sex crimes in other states.

A lawyer says the two Caledonia County men were convicted in the 1990s in Massachusetts and New Hampshire.



Wrong turn leads to this

Cynthia Barnes climbs out of the window of her stranded vehicle as her brother, Ernest Hilliard, helps her in a flooded underpass in Norfolk, Va. Barnes said the windows were fogged up when she drove into the water and she couldn't see that the underpass was flooded. She said she took the wrong street and when she hit the water she thought she had driven into a river.



Keeping her eye on the prize giver

Lynsey Bush, 4, pulls her goat along while keeping her eye on the judge during the Carter County Fair in Grayson, Ky.



Fair flag waving

Mariah Freehart twirls her flag as she parades in the Iowa State Fair in Des Moines, Iowa.



Penguins' graduation

A trio of new adolescent Magellanic penguins waddle through the San Francisco Zoo to their new home on Penguin Island as part of the zoo's annual March of the Penguins in San Francisco. Hatched earlier this year, the young chicks have been attending fish school at the Avian Conservation Center and graduated to the island to join the zoo's 50 other penguins.



Miles to go

Volunteers Miles Enam, left, and Georgette Rahman clean a historical landmark sign in front of the Robert Frost Farm State Historic Site in Derry, N.H., in preparation for the next day when more than a dozen volunteers from Hampton Hotels' Save-A-Landmark program were to clean and landscape around the farm.



Insulated in blue jeans

Erik Hansen, 9, of Curtice, Ohio, pokes his head out of a display of 33,088 pairs of jeans that were collected in an effort by National Geographic Kids Magazine, to be recycled into housing insulation in Washington, D.C.



performs with the Clarinda Academy drum and flag corps from the Iowa State Fair Parade in Des Moines.

About 30 animals seized from Virginia home

VA TIMBERVILLE — About 30 dogs, cats and other animals have been seized from a home in Rockingham County.

Sheriff Don Farley said conditions inside the residence in Timberville were inhumane.

The sheriff's office said in a news release that Ronald L. Adams, 25, and Tiffany K. Dimick, 20, both of Harrisonburg, were charged with misdemeanor animal cruelty.

Farley said deputies and animal control officers went to the home and found 12 dogs chained outside with little or no food and water that was unfit to drink.

Rabbits, guinea pigs, cats, a squirrel and a rat were found inside. Farley said some of the animals were dead.

Pregnant woman loses fetuses in car crash

VT BENNINGTON — Vermont police say drug use may have played a role in a head-on crash that resulted in the death of two fetuses.

The crash on Route 7 in Bennington sent five people to the hospital, including 38-year-old Patricia Blair of Bennington, who was pregnant with twins. The 6-month-old fetuses did not survive.

Police said Blair was driving south with her family when their minivan was struck head-on by a car driven by Kelly Cook, 22, of Pownal.

Prosecutor Erica Marthage said police inquired whether the case could be pursued as a double fatal accident.

But she said the state Supreme Court ruled previously a viable fetus isn't considered a person for purposes of criminal statute.

Boy, 11, fatally shot in Houston accident

TX HOUSTON — Houston police say an 11-year-old boy died after being shot in the head in what appears to have been an accident at his home.

The name of the victim was not immediately released.

Detective J.T. Barringer said police believe the boy and two siblings, ages 14 and 10, were looking for a phone in a bedroom when a backpack that contained a pistol was moved.

The gun went off. Police said the victim was dead at the scene.

Barringer said the gun apparently belonged to the boy's mother.

University using sonar technology to study cod

NH DURHAM — University of New Hampshire researchers are using multibeam sonar technologies to study endangered cod populations in New England waters.

Multibeam sonar has been used to map ocean bottom characteristics, but researchers are now applying the technology to estimate cod abundance and distribution. They say the new acoustic technology allows them to cover larger areas at a reduced cost because all the work is conducted remotely.

Acoustic surveys can also eliminate the unintended mortality of fish that occurs during trawling.

Museum gets lifeboat from pirate rescue

FL WEST PALM BEACH — A Florida museum dedicated to Navy SEAL history will receive the lifeboat where a sea captain captured by Somali pirates was held and eventually rescued.

The National Navy UDT-SEAL Museum in Fort Pierce is scheduled to get the 20-foot lifeboat, still battered and full of broken glass.

U.S. Navy snipers shot dead three of Capt. Richard Phillips' captors in April, ending a standoff that began several days earlier when his cargo ship surrendered to Somali pirates. Phillips was hailed as a hero after offering himself as a hostage.

The lifeboat is bright orange and relatively large, with a round shape and enclosed top.

Man in decapitating horse case to go to trial

CA RIVERSIDE — A California man accused of decapitating his horse with a chain saw has been ordered to stand trial on animal cruelty charges.

A Riverside Superior Court judge said there was enough evidence to try 64-year-old Jack Ziniuk, according to The Press-Enterprise newspaper.

Prosecutors said Ziniuk hit his horse in the head with a sledgehammer and decapitated it in the remote mountain community of Anza.

Ziniuk has pleaded not guilty. He said he loved the horse named Grizzle and that the animal was already dead. A vet pathologist determined the horse was still alive when it was decapitated.

Ex-N.Y. teacher faces prison for molestation

NY SYRACUSE — A former music teacher at an Onondaga Indian reservation school is scheduled to be sentenced for molesting a female student.

Albert Scerbo of Clay faces up to seven years in prison when he's sentenced in Syracuse.

The 47-year-old Scerbo was convicted in early June of one felony count of first-degree sexual abuse and a misdemeanor charge of endangering the welfare of a child. The Onondaga County Court judge who presided over his nonjury trial found him guilty of molesting a 7-year-old girl in August 2007 at the Onondaga Nation school just south of Syracuse.

The same judge set aside Scerbo's earlier conviction because of juror misconduct, leading to the retrial.

Massachusetts man dies in 'police' shooting

MA DARTMOUTH — Authorities are investigating what they are calling an "officer involved" fatal shooting in Dartmouth.

A spokesman for the Bristol district attorney's office said a 42-year-old man was shot and killed. His name was not immediately released.

DA spokesman Greg Miliote said police responded to a call for "someone lurking in the area" who may have been wielding a knife or screwdriver.

No police officers were hurt.

Stories and photos from wire services

STARS AND STRIPES.

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BY GEORGE F. WILL

WASHINGTON

Howard Lederer, aka "the Professor," is a professional poker player, not a gambler. If Congress will acknowledge this distinction, it will rectify one of its recent mistakes.

In 2006, Congress, cloaking cunning with moralizing, effectively outlawed Internet gambling by making it illegal for banks or credit-card companies to process payments to online gambling operations. This was more than moral pork for social conservatives. It also blocked online competitors from poaching gamblers from the nation's most aggressive promoters of gambling — state governments. They are increasingly addicted to revenues raised by lotteries — the 42 states that have lotteries spent \$520 million in 2007 promoting them — and from taxation of other legal gambling. The law exempted Internet state lotteries and two powerful and vocal interests — online betting on horse racing and some fantasy sports betting online.

Having turned gambling, which once was treated as a sin, into a social policy,

government looks unusually silly criminalizing online forms of it. Granted, some people gamble excessively (although not nearly as many people as eat excessively). Granted, gambling becomes addictive to a small minority (although it is not nearly as addictive as smoking and drinking). Granted, gambling is morally dubious when it is only the unproductive pursuit of wealth without work (although gambling is productive of pleasure for tens of millions of Americans for whom it is a frequent pastime). But never mind whether government should try to tightly circumscribe a ubiquitous human activity that generally harms nobody.

That is beside the point. Lederer and the Poker Players Alliance are toiling to make, which is that by sweeping online poker into its proscription of online gambling, Congress committed a category mistake. Congress, Lederer thinks, should revisit the work of John von Neumann (1903-57), the Hungarian-born mathematician who, after working for the Manhattan Project on implosion design for the atomic bomb, became a defense intellectual specializing in the relevance of game theory to strategic thinking. Chess involves logic; roulette involves probability theory. Poker involves logic, probability and something pertinent to military and diplomatic strategy — bluffing.

"Theory of Parlor Games" (1928) and, with Oskar Morgenstern, "Theory of Games and Economic Behavior" (1944) established the field of game theory. Another of today's leading professional poker players, Chris Ferguson, is the son of a mother who is a mathematician and a father who teaches game theory at UCLA.

When you play chess, Lederer says, there is symmetry of information: Both players have all the information provided by the location of the pieces on the board, and both are equally ignorant of the opponent's intentions. A computer can be programmed to "play" a powerful game of chess, but not

Having turned gambling, which once was treated as a sin, into a social policy, government looks unusually silly criminalizing online forms of it.

of poker, wherein your opponents' cards are concealed.

Lederer is confident that a brain scan of someone playing poker would reveal a lit-up frontal lobe, but the lobe of someone watching television would show up cool blue. A poker player — unlike someone playing roulette, a lottery or "video poker" (which Lederer says is a misnomer; it is a game of chance governed by a machine) — is trying to apply skill, acquired by experience, to increase the probability of winning each hand.

The son of an English teacher at St. Paul's School in New Hampshire, Lederer decided to spend a year studying chess before matriculating at Columbia University. Instead, he discovered poker. He started at Columbia but left, reasoning that he had found his vocation. He has won about \$5 million.

But what is his stake in decriminalizing online poker? After all, he plays much more on green felt-covered tables than online. His interest is threefold. First, his libertarian temperament — he lives in Las Vegas, where almost anything goes — is offended by mother-hen government. Second, he wants as many people as possible to have access to poker's delights. Third, the more poker players there are, the larger will be the ranks of competitors, and the television audiences, for professional poker competitions. Hence the larger will be the potential winnings. This year, Lederer says, there were 6,494 competitors in the World Series of Poker Main Event, down about 1,000 from 2006, largely because more players used to win their \$10,000 entry fee in online tournaments.

It is a poker skill to know when to hold 'em and when to fold 'em. Congress probably should fold its interference with Internet gambling, and certainly should get its 10 thumbs off Americans' freedom to exercise their poker skills online.

George Will is a member of Washington Post Writers Group.

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OPINION

What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editorials are provided by The Associated Press and other stateside syndicates.

All over but the shouting?

The Austin (Texas) American-Statesman

When you go to hear elected officials or political candidates discuss the issues of the day, be polite as well as respectful of others attending the event. Feel free to be — and in fact we encourage you to be — challenging, assertive and skeptical of what you hear. Make the officeholders and candidates talk with you, not at you. That's good for democracy.

What's bad for democracy is screaming at, shouting down or in any way discouraging conversation. ... Here's an ... example, taken from a memo from the Tea Party Patriots, a group that wants members to harass Democratic lawmakers: "Be disruptive early and often. You need to rock the boat early in the rep's presentation. Watch for an opportunity to yell out and challenge the rep's statements early. ... The goal is to rattle him, get him off his prepared script and agenda. If he says something outrageous, stand up and shout out and sit right back down. Look for these opportunities before he even takes questions."

There's a bad idea. These tactics are not productive and probably won't change any minds. So how about if we try to show each other as well as our elected leaders, love 'em or hate 'em, a little respect?

It appears all bets off on taxes

The Paducah (Ky.) Sun

Your taxes are going up.

Much as we hate to be the bearer of bad news, we think you ought to know.

No, we haven't forgotten the president's oft-repeated campaign promise not to raise your taxes. Unless you are rich, of course. But to the middle class he promised, "You will not see your taxes increased by a single dime. Not your income tax, not your payroll tax, not your capital gains tax. No taxes."

At the time, Barack Obama's opponents said the math didn't work — he simply would not be able to do all he promised without broad tax hikes. But Obama insisted he could and would. Since then, however, economic realities have set in. And those economic realities were manufactured in Washington.

Now the administration is starting to gently break the bad news: One way or another, you're going to pay more for the federal government's excesses.

But don't take our word for it. Listen to Timothy Geithner, the former New York Fed chief whom the president chose to lead the Treasury Department because Obama deemed him the only person capable of steering the U.S. economy out of the recession. On ABC's "This Week," host George Stephanopoulos asked Geithner if the president would have to break his pledge not to raise taxes on 95 percent of Americans. He responded, "We're going to have to do what's necessary." ...

Congress is showing no signs of getting deficit spending under control. Higher taxes are inevitable. The only question is the form. ... Yes, middle-class taxpayers, you're going to pay more. The rich just don't make enough money to keep up with the spending appetites of Congress.

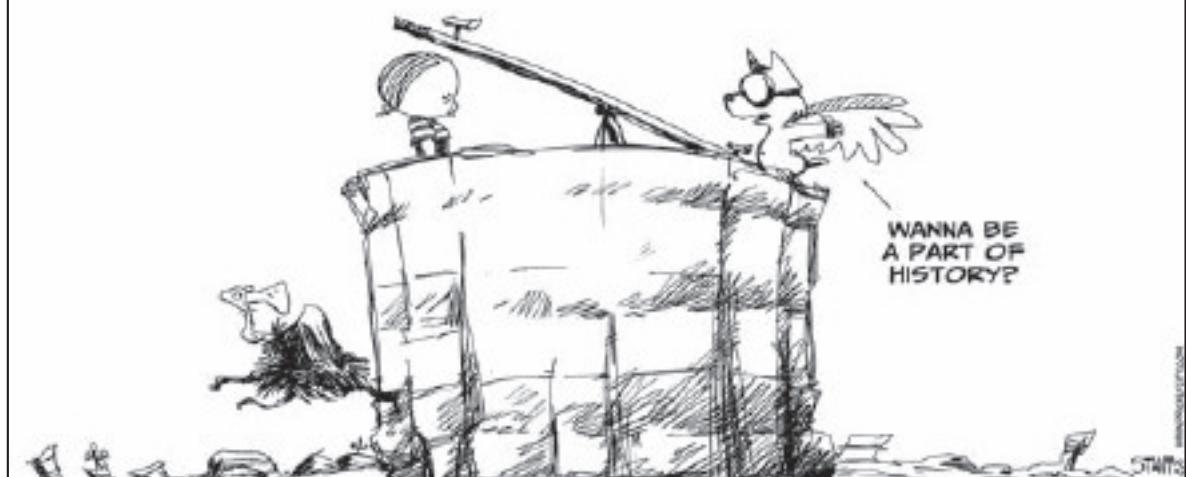
A growing part of health care

The (Toledo, Ohio) Blade

Just as the national debate over health care reform enters a critical stage, along comes a national study pointing out that

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obesity adds \$147 billion every year to the cost of health care in this country. ...

Americans consume an average of 250 more calories per day than they did 20 years ago. That's 26 pounds to burn off every year just to stay even. And medical costs associated with the resulting obesity have nearly doubled in less than a decade. ... The extra weight Americans are packing leads to numerous and often avoidable health problems. ... As Congress debates health care reform, the question becomes: Who will foot the bill? ...

While the debate over health care reform has focused mainly on the cost and how to pay for it, what's been missing is real discussion of the preventive component. ... Choosing a healthier lifestyle is the best way to hold down medical bills for everyone. Failure to heed that message may turn out to be the deciding factor in whether health care reform succeeds this time.

'Reparative therapy' damaging

Chicago Sun-Times

There's nothing like a dry research paper to help clear up the sexiest and most controversial of topics.

With a 138-page report to back them up, the American Psychological Association this month declared that mental health professionals should not tell their gay clients that they can become straight through therapy or other treatments. ...

We doubt this will dissuade die-hard proponents of "reparative therapy," but we applaud the APA for taking a sober look at the topic — and for coming out strongly against it. The group has long espoused the view that homosexuality is normal. But this declaration, we hope, will reach gay people who are considering this discredited therapy and will lend more authority to the therapists who reject it.

The association also gets credit for carefully examining the difficult conflict between a person's sexual orientation and his or her religious views, which often leads gays to seek out such therapies. ... Therapists are urged to respect their client's religious views and to help them explore ways to live a spiritually meaningful life, including choosing celibacy. But the APA didn't back down on the conversion question, urging therapists to address "the reality" of a client's "sexual orientation."

The APA was respectful when it mattered — both to a range of religious views and to the facts.

Consider intent of 'sexters'

The (Lakeland, Fla.) Ledger

"Sexting" — sending sexually provocative photos via cell phone or e-mail — is hardly an innocent pastime. Yet teens who engage in this risky behavior often have

no harmful intent, no clue to the potential consequences, and no idea that they may be committing a crime.

Their exhibitionism should not be condoned. But when it is not intentionally exploitative, it should not be prosecuted as felony child pornography.

Unfortunately, too many communities are doing exactly that. In Pennsylvania, for example, a district attorney is threatening to file child pornography charges against three girls, pictured partially clad, in photos from a slumber party. ...

In such circumstances, a pornography charge is not warranted. It is an overreaction that subjects these children to humiliation, fear, legal expense and a criminal record. What is needed is a more sensible response that offers juvenile first offenders a life lesson without destroying their lives.

Key is 2 journalists are safe

(Kingston, N.Y.) Daily Freeman

So the former president of the United States flies halfway around the globe on a secret mission and, to the surprise of the world, comes home with two Americans who'd been imprisoned in a ruthless foreign land.

You would have thought that Bill Clinton getting two Americans out of a tough jam in North Korea would be universally received as a good thing.

You'd a' thunk wrong. Critics in the United States have bent themselves from here to Pyongyang and back to criticize the whole thing.

The Obama administration, which negotiated the release and sanctioned the trip by Citizen Clinton, surely rewarded North Korea's bad behavior, setting a terrible precedent, they say. Or the trip was really about Bill Clinton weaseling himself into an Obama administration role. Or surely Clinton's discussion with Kim Jong Il must have strayed into areas that compromised official U.S. diplomatic policy toward North Korea, despite White House insistence to the contrary. Or the stage managing of the return of the plane carrying Clinton, Laura Ling and Euna Lee was unseemly.

The manufactured kerfuffle over Clinton's humanitarian trip shows just how poisonous our politics have become. ...

In the end, what happened was no rollover by the Obama administration. Reduced to its essentials, the deal secured the release of two Americans from a hellish fate at the cost of a photo op. That's solid diplomacy. ... And that's worth celebrating.

Obama tougher than depicted

The Decatur (Ala.) Daily

Among the many criticisms hurled at President Barack Obama is that he is a pacifist. How can a man willing to talk to

Iran and North Korea have the backbone to exert our military might against enemies?

The reported death of Taliban leader Baitullah Mehsud in Pakistan is a reminder that the pacifist label, like so many others pinned to Obama, is inaccurate. Missile strikes in Pakistan have increased, not decreased, since Obama took office. Evidence suggests that the relentless attacks have disrupted al-Qaida and Taliban operations whether or not the Aug. 5 strike killed Mehsud.

For Americans, there is a lesson here. Homegrown enemies of Obama — think talk radio — are masters at labels. Obama is not just a pacifist, they say he's a socialist and a fascist and a control freak. The fact is, he is an intelligent man who is proving himself adept at processing the facts before him. As the missile strikes make clear, he prefers diplomacy but understands force sometimes is necessary. ...

Obama has made mistakes, and he will make more. But at a time of crisis — international and domestic — he is the best America has to offer. If anyone can see us through these travails, he is the one.

Little Leaguers' big gesture

(East Brunswick, N.J.) Home News Tribune

An act of sportsmanship and decency occurred recently on a baseball field in Green Brook that we couldn't let pass without notice. The East Brunswick 9-years-old-and-under Little League team gave their championship trophy to Ryan Walsh, a member of the defeated Green Brook 9-and-under team, following their championship victory. In June, Walsh lost his father and coach, 54-year-old Marty Walsh, to cancer two years after losing his mom, Elizabeth Walsh, also to cancer. Ryan will soon be moving to Colorado. ...

Sportsmanship and decency are two qualities too often lacking in today's sports world, on all levels. In pro sports, high-priced athletes parade like peacocks around playing fields, then demand exorbitant sums of money for mediocre performances. In youth sports, the stands are often a place for boorish and vulgar hostility emanating from frustrated parents who view their children as athletic surrogates. Or just because it's all being taken far too seriously.

The role of sports should be to build strong bodies and even stronger character, especially at the youth level. Instead, athletics seems to have become a me-first exercise where teamwork is secondary. ...

We can all learn much from brave Ryan Walsh, who heroically carried on despite his loss, and the members of the East Brunswick squad, who recognized Ryan's courage and fortitude.

PERSPECTIVES

Victims of confusion

On the other end of the guns, GIs affected by deaths of 3 Iraqis

By MAJ. CLARK CREIGHTON
K. ADAMS II

Early in our endeavor in Iraq, and more frequently as our troop strength in Afghanistan increased, we heard emotional reports of civilians being killed by American forces during operations.

These reports usually included tearful relatives and possibly a bullet-riddled car in the background.

An element universally missing from these tragic accounts was the perspective of the young American who was on the other end of the rifle. Occasionally a senior officer, acting

as an Army spokesperson, would provide a sterile recounting of the Army's understanding of the chain of events, but very rarely have we heard from the men on the ground. This void in the coverage is unfortunate, because it denies the world a full understanding of the circumstances and provides fertile ground for unfounded criticism of our strategies, our tactics, and our soldiers.

This deficit in full disclosure compels me to share my personal experience with this ugly issue. I hope that, by recounting the circumstances and thoughts of the men directly involved in the accidental killing of three Iraqi men, I can provide a more complete comprehension of how an American soldier comes to shoot a civilian. While each story is distinct and I cannot profess to have a full understanding of every civilian shooting event, I think the events that led to this incident in 2005 are reasonably representative of the ambiguous and frantic nature of the moments that lead to an unintended killing.

On Oct. 11, 2005, I was a reconnaissance company commander in Abu Ghraib, just west of Baghdad. It was mid-evening as I stood in my command post, reviewing patrol reports, when the radio came alive with "Phantom Main this is Green 1. Contact, Out!" The transmission was barely intelligible over the staccato roar of machine guns. One of my platoon-sized patrols was in a fight. I immediately ordered another platoon to prepare to move out in support and yelled for my first sergeant. I continued to monitor the situation by portable radio as I donned my gear and moved to the relief platoon's staging point. As we were loading the gun-trucks, the patrol leader in contact reported his situation: "Sporadic gunfire from Swordhouse (an Iraqi outpost). One sedan engaged and halted after the occupants fired at us while charging the patrol. No U.S. casualties. No further contact, Over."



Adams



CLARK CREIGHTON K. ADAMS II/Courtesy to Stars and Stripes

A Humvee from C Troop, 1-71 Cavalry Regiment (Reconnaissance, Surveillance and Target Acquisition) races around stalled Baghdad traffic while moving to support an ambushed engineer unit in December 2005. Two months earlier near Abu Ghraib, U.S. troops returning from patrol heard gunfire and saw what looked like muzzle flashes from a car accelerating toward them.

I breathed a sigh of relief that my boys were all right and hoped that they had killed a known bad guy.

By the time I arrived at the scene with the reinforcing platoon — about 15 minutes later — all shooting had stopped, but things were clearly wrong. The patrol leader seemed agitated and confused as he explained the situation to me: "Sir, we were coming in [from patrolling] and, as we crossed onto the highway, we heard gunfire. When I looked down the road, a car was accelerating towards us and there were muzzle flashes coming from it. The gunners opened up and engaged until the vehicle stopped. I called 'Cease fire' and we moved in to clear the car ... but we can't find any guns. I know they were shooting!"

I walked over to the car and looked inside for any sign of weapons or shell casings. Inside of the car was a disturbing example of the brutal effectiveness of modern weaponry. Three men were very dead, two in the front seat and one in the back. The man in the back had clearly tried to duck onto the floorboards for cover but this gesture proved futile. There was no evidence of weapons.

I ordered a detailed search of the car and its path toward the patrol in hopes that the weapon had been tossed from the car.

One of the patrol's gunners told me that he thought that the Iraqis had also shot at the car while it was charging them. As my men searched the area, I went to talk to the Iraqi commander.

When I entered Swordhouse, I found that the officer in charge was a lieutenant colonel and that he was upset that my men "didn't try to get the sniper." I was confused and asked him to explain. He informed me that, as my patrol entered the area, someone began shooting south, across the highway, at the Swordhouse. His men returned fire but my patrol never maneuvered

against the insurgent gunman. I explained that my men were unaware of the gunman but had engaged the car.

I asked him if any of his men had seen gunfire from the car during the gunfight. After consulting with his men, the Iraqi reported that they had not. The car had been traveling toward my patrol on the highway when it stopped about 500 yards short (a common practice to allow U.S. combat vehicles to merge). At this point, the fire on the Swordhouse began. Because drive-by shootings and rocketing were common (occurring nearly daily), the Iraqi machine-

"The gunners opened up and engaged until the vehicle stopped. I called 'Cease fire' and we moved in to clear the car ... but we can't find any guns. I know they were shooting!"

— description from a U.S. patrol leader of a 2005 incident in Abu Ghraib, Iraq, in which U.S. forces fired upon a vehicle that approached them at a high rate of speed. All three occupants of the vehicle were killed.

It was later determined that the driver was fleeing gunfire from another direction, not seeking to attack.

gunners engaged the car with several short bursts before realizing that the stopped car was not the source of the gunfire.

Suddenly it was clear to me: The Iraqis had engaged the car, prompting the driver to accelerate, fleeing the machine-gun fire. My men heard the gunfire, saw the car accelerating toward them, and saw the flashes as Iraqi tracer rounds burst when they struck the car. Through night-vision goggles the tracer flaring would have resembled muzzle flashes. With seconds before the car reached them, my men were forced to make a life-or-death decision. All of the information available told them that they were under attack and they responded as they were trained.

I returned to the platoon and explained the missing pieces to the patrol leader. For a few seconds I saw grief wash over his face and fear of the coming consequences begin to dawn before he pushed it off, using his responsibilities in the present as a distraction. "Sir, what do you want me to do?"

Over the next 48 hours I briefed the battalion commander, we took statements, and the first sergeant had the chaplain

come down to talk with the men individually. The commander appointed an investigating officer who, over the next week, came to the same understanding of the evening's events as I: The confusion resulting from the attack on Swordhouse created a situation that the members of my patrol misinterpreted as an attack on them. The patrol's response, while tragic, was appropriate and in accordance with the rules of engagement.

No disciplinary action was recommended or taken. On their own accord, my men located the families of the victims, apologized, and delivered the Army's condolence payments. All of the men in that patrol soldiered on for another seven months, patrolling and fighting daily, but some had great difficulty coming to terms with the events of that evening.

This recounting is not intended as a "war story." I hope it presents a different perspective on this type of incident. The American soldier who is involved in such a shooting is often lost within the imposing figure wearing body armor, a rifle and dark shades. He is, in reality, a young man, often thrust into chaotic and terrifying circumstances, who is trying his best to do his job, defend his buddies, and get home alive. I hope that now, when you see a reporter interviewing a crying family on television, you will remember that there may be a matching soldier crying somewhere else.

Maj. Clark Creighton K. Adams II was commissioned as an infantry officer in 1998. He is currently serving as a combat operations analyst at the Army Training and Doctrine Command Analysis Center—White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico. He has deployed in support of Kosovo Forces, as a platoon leader, and twice in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, as a company commander and counter-improvised explosive device analyst. The views expressed in this article are those of the author and do not reflect the official policy or position of the Department of the Army, Department of Defense, or the U.S. government.

AFRTS Television ScheduleUpdated sports listings are available on AFN's Web site at <http://myafn.dodmedia.osd.mil/>

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2009

	(AFN-ATLANTIC)	(AFN-FAMILY)	(AFN-MOVIE)	(AFN-NEWS)	(AFN-PACIFIC)	(PENTAGON)	(SPECTRUM)	(AFN-SPORTS)	(XTRA)
15:00	Sonic the Hedgehog	Animal Miracles "Fogg's Ray of Light"	(2:55) Movie "Shanghai Noon" (2000, Comedy) Jackie Chan, Owen Wilson, Lucy Liu.	The Rachel Maddow Show	Deadliest Catch The end of the season approaches.	Fit For Duty Battleground	Eureka "Primal" Fargo invents a mental mouse.	SportsCenter	NFL Total Access
15:30	Danny Phantom	SpongeBob SquarePants		Around the Services	Law & Order "Captive"	Ft. Hood on Track Week-Pentagon	Stargate Atlantis "Misbegotten" Wraith prisoners.	MLB Baseball San Francisco Giants at New York Mets. From Citi Field in Flushing, N.Y. (Same-day Tape Subject to Blackout)	MTV Hits Playlist
16:00	Naruto	SpongeBob SquarePants		Tavis Smiley	Nightly Business Report	Extreme Makeover: Home Edition "Gaudet Family"	King of the Hill		Top 20 Countdown
16:30	Darcy's Wild Life	SpongeBob SquarePants			Nightline	Recon	That '70s Show		Top 20 Countdown
17:00	Ent. Studios	Bindi the Jungle Girl	Movie "Bounce" (2000) Gwyneth Paltrow. A widow's new beau inadvertently caused her husband's death.	The O'Reilly Factor	The O'Reilly Factor	Recon Revisited	The King of Queens		
17:30	Criss Angel Mindfreak	Lemur Kingdom		World News-Gibson	World News-Gibson	Army Newswatch	Everybody-Raymond		
18:00	Dogfights Flying F-86 Sabres during the Korean War.	The Universe "Cosmic Holes"		ESPN	ESPN	Week-Pentagon	Samantha Who?	SportsCenter	ECW
18:30							The Big Bang Theory		
19:00	Access Hollywood	Movie "Charlotte's Web" (2006, Drama) Voices of Julia Roberts. A spider saves a young pig's bacon.	Countdown With Keith Olbermann	Law & Order "Promote This!"	America's Most Wanted: America Fights Back	All Hands TV Pacific Report	Prison Break "Greatness Achieved"	NFL Preseason Football St. Louis Rams at New York Jets. From Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J. (Same-day Tape Subject to Blackout)	WWE SmackDown!
19:30					MSNBC Live	Headline News	Army Newswatch		
20:00	Deadliest Catch	The end of crab season approaches.				American Dad	Saturday Night Live		The Best Damn Sports Show Period
20:30						Today	Battleground		
21:00	Law & Order "Captive"	Dawson's Creek "Road Trip"	(10) Movie "Legally Blonde 2: Red, White & Blonde" (2003, Comedy) Reese Witherspoon, Sally Field.			Balad and Beyond			
21:30									
22:00	Law & Order "Promote This!"	Movie "Daredevil" (2003, Action) Ben Affleck, Jennifer Garner. A blind attorney fights crime at night.	Movie "Gattaca" (1997) Ethan Hawke, Uma Thurman.	Bulls and Bears	"Til Death	Recon			
22:30				Cavuto on Business	Back to You	Week-Pentagon			
23:00	Leverage "The First David Job"								
23:30									

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2009

00:00	America's Most Wanted: America Fights Back	The Simpsons	(11:00) Movie "Gattaca" (1997) Ethan Hawke, Jude Law.	Forbes on FOX	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Alternate"	FNG Useful benefits.	(11:30) Austin City Limits	Golf PGA Championship	Top 20 Countdown
00:30		The Simpsons				Fit For Duty	Keeping Up-Kardashians	-- Third Round. From Hazeltine National Golf Club in Chaska, Minn. (Live)	
1:00	Sports	Movie "Charlotte's Web" (2006, Drama) Voices of Julia Roberts, Dakota Fanning. A spider saves a young pig's bacon.	Newsroom	Bones Brennan and her team match with a serial killer.	Around the Services	Wife Swap "Espinosa-Marquez/Pay"			Top 20 Countdown
1:30		Movie "The Harder They Fall" (1956) Humphrey Bogart. A jobless writer with many contacts exposes the fight racket.	Your Money	House "Deception"	Around the Services	Boston Legal "Whose God Is It Anyway?"			
2:00		Movie "Daredevil" (2003, Action) Ben Affleck, Jennifer Garner. A blind attorney fights crime at night.	This Week in the Pentagon	Law & Order "Promote This!"	Around the Services	Judging Amy "One for the Road"			
2:30			Wall Street Journal Report		First Air Force Now				
3:00			Glenn Beck	Leverage "The First David Job"	Battleground	Austin City Limits "Norah Jones"			
3:30					National Guard News				
4:00									
4:30									
5:00	Sports	Barney & Friends		Newsroom	America's Most Wanted: America Fights Back	This Week in the Pentagon	Kiana's Flex Appeal		
5:30		Oobi				The Benning Report	Denise Austin's Getting Fit		
6:00		Sesame Street				Downrange News from Iraq and Afghanistan.	Big Daddy's House		
6:30		Swamp Critters					Throwdown With Bobby Flay		
7:00		Movie "Gone With the Wind" (1939, Romance)					Music and the Spoken Word		
7:30		Adventures-Book of Virtues							
8:00	Sports	Postman Pat							
8:30		Danger Rangers							
9:00		The Magic School Bus							
9:30		Fetch! With Ruff Ruffman							
10:00		Codename: Kids Next Door							
10:30		Sabrina's Secret Life							
11:00	Sports	Growing Pains							
11:30		The Cosby Show							
12:00		Full House							
12:30		Drake & Josh							
13:00	McLaughlin Group	Movie "Bratz Babyz: The Movie" (2006) Voices of Ashleigh Ball, Alexandra Carter.							
13:30		ESPN							
14:00		Washington Week in Review							
14:30		House Call-Dr. Sanjay Gupta							
15:00		Entertainers							
15:30									
16:00	In Touch-Dr. Charles Stanley	SpongeBob SquarePants							
16:30		SpongeBob SquarePants							
17:00		The Coral Ridge Hour							
17:30		Crossing the Goal							
18:00		Austin City Limits "Sheryl Crow" Sheryl Crow performs.							
18:30		America's Funniest Home Videos							
19:00		MotorWeek							
19:30		At the Movies							
20:00		Digging for the Truth "The Da Vinci Code: Bloodlines"							
20:30		Smallville "Infamous"							
21:00		Bigfoot and Other Monsters							
21:30		Lincoln Heights "Glass House"							
22:00		Anthony Bourdain: No Reservations "Ireland" Ireland.							
22:30		Touched by an Angel "Jagged Edges"							
23:00		7th Heaven "Here Comes Santa Claus"							
23:30		Movie "Nothing to Lose" (1997) Martin Lawrence.							

MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2009

00:00	Ice Road Truckers "Edge of the Earth"	Walking With Cavemen	(11:00) Movie "Nothing to Lose" (1997) Martin Lawrence.	This Week With George Stephanopoulos	Comics Unleashed	Around the Services	24 "Day 6: 4:00PM - 5:00PM"	Golf PGA Championship	MLB Baseball
00:30		Cavemen live short lives.			Two and a Half Men	Fit For Duty		MLS Soccer Seattle Sounders FC at Los Angeles Galaxy. From the Home Depot Center in Carson, Calif. (Taped)	MLS Soccer Seattle
1:00	Sports	Smallville "Infamous"		Meet the Press	NCIS "Cover Story"	The Benning Report	Grey's Anatomy "Great Expectations"		
1:30						The Grill Sergeants	King of the Hill		
2:00		Lincoln Heights "Glass House"		America's News HQ	Cold Case "Blackout"	VA News	Sun City Soldier		
2:30						Prison Break "Good Fences"	That '70s Show		
3:00		Touched by an Angel "Jagged Edges"			Newsroom	20/20	The King of Queens		
3:30							FNG Useful benefits.		
4:00		7th Heaven "Here Comes Santa Claus"					Everybody Loves Raymond		
4:30									
5:00	Sports	Teletubbies			Your Money	Medium "The Man in the Mirror"			
5:30		Bear in the Big Blue House				Battleground	Seinfeld "The Doorman"		
						Recon	Friends		
							Law & Order "Hate"		
							Around the Services		

News

MIDDLE EAST HEADLINES

Alleged serial rapist barred from work at U.S. bases in

SCOREBOARD

Pacific scoreboard for the April 8 edition

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Military News

Sports

Weather

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YOUR MONEY



AP

Lisa Terhorst browses goods at the Pasadena Flea Market in Pasadena, Calif. About 72 percent of American consumers have asked for a lower price on their purchases in the past few months, according to consumer survey organization American Research Group. Researchers found that hagglers were successful about 80 percent of the time.

How to haggle with class

Six effective ways to get the most out of every dollar you spend

BY SARAH SKIDMORE

The Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — It may feel pushy or even rude, but haggling is becoming much more widespread — and acceptable.

About 72 percent of American consumers have asked for a lower price on their purchases in the past few months, according to consumer survey organization American Research Group. They were successful about 80 percent of the time.

That's significantly more negotiating — with better results — than in prior years.

Businesses are more willing to bargain now that sales are down, experts say. So here are few tips on how to save on everything from shirts to televisions:

1. Prepare yourself

Your first and most effective step is to research your potential purchase. Information about the product, its features and pricing around town and online can be leveraged in negotiations. And you'll know what your options are if you want to walk away.

Max Edison, a former pawnbroker and the author of "How to Haggle," recommends checking reviews and prices at Amazon, eBay and other Web sites.

"eBay is the New York Stock Exchange of new and used products," Edison said.

2. Practice your pitch

If you are nervous or embarrassed about haggling, rehearse your approach, either in your head or for real. Try a garage sale, where the stakes are lower, said Tom Hayman, owner and CEO of Negotiation



LYNNE SLADKY/AP

Customers shop at Blush Boutique in Miami. Some experts say many retailers are more willing to bargain now that their sales are down.

Expertise, a negotiation training company.

"The biggest obstacle to overcome is the reluctance to even ask," Hayman said.

3. Be polite

Keep the interaction friendly. Most people prefer doing business with people they like, and negotiations tend to break down when people get combative. Remember this is a business deal that can benefit both parties: They want to sell something and you want to buy it, just at a lower price.

Haggling can be as subtle as asking if the item will go on sale soon, offering to buy a display model or asking, "Can you do any better than that?"

4. Choose carefully

Don't haggle for gasoline, groceries or cigarettes as a rule, Edison said. Pick items with a higher markup because fatter margins give the retailer more wiggle room. Items on close-out may also be up for discussion because retailers usually want to clear them out.

Also pick the right person to bargain with; the salesperson on the floor may not have the power to cut you a deal when a manager might.

5. Show what you know

You have the facts to back up your negotiating stance. So let your sparring partner know if you can get a better deal next door; he or she might match it. If there is a ding on the door or a stain on the collar, point that out and wait for a counteroffer. It's hard to argue against something concrete.

6. Use your pull

Recognize the leverage you have. You can offer to pay cash to save retailers the fee they pay to your credit card company. Or ask if buying more than one item will help lower the price; they may be willing to work out a better deal if you offer to buy a dryer along with that washer.

Be prepared to walk away, but be aware that you're weakening your position significantly if you need to come back.

YOUR MONEY

Most lenders use FICO scores to decide terms

Dear Liz: I began paying down my debt six months ago and have paid off \$10,000 so far. I subscribed to a credit score tracking system through a free offer and was told my credit score was in the 670 range most of the time. When I applied for a mortgage loan recently, however, the bank told me my middle score was only 612. One credit bureau said my score was just 590! How is this possible?

Answer: There are many different credit scoring formulas available today, but the one used by most mortgage lenders is the FICO. You have FICO scores from each of the three bureaus, and mortgage lenders typically use the middle of those three scores to determine your rates and terms.

Unfortunately, many of the companies hawking "alternative" scores don't make it clear to their customers that they're not seeing a FICO score. The confusion is compounded by the fact that your credit scores, including your FICOs, change all the time, and lenders also use somewhat different versions of the FICO scoring formula, which can produce somewhat different results.

Still, for a score that's closest to what your lender will see and

Money Talk

Liz Pulliam Weston

use, you want FICOs. You can buy your FICO scores for two of the three bureaus at MyFico.com. Unfortunately, Experian no longer sells FICO scores to consumers, although it continues to sell them to lenders. That means you can no longer know in advance what rate you qualify for, since you can't know what your middle score is until your lender gets all three.

Dear Liz: I'm 59 and unemployed. My husband, who is turning 65 in July, recently lost his job as well. We've saved about \$12,000 for emergencies and have a couple of 401(k) accounts totaling about \$110,000. My husband receives about \$1,800 a month from Social Security and a pension. We're not too hopeful about finding jobs at our ages and in our area.

Should we begin drawing on the 401(k)s for income to pay our bills after the savings run out, or should we seek credit counseling to reduce our consumer debt? I'm scared of what our future holds and worried about losing my insurance coverage through COBRA after the subsidy runs out.

Answer: You didn't say how much consumer debt you have or what your monthly expenses are, but the fact that you're thinking of tapping your relatively small retirement stash indicates you're probably in deep trouble.

A debt management plan through credit counseling will work only if you have the extra

income to pay off your credit cards over the next five years. If you don't, bankruptcy may be the better option.

Dear Liz: I took advantage of a 4.99 percent fixed-rate balance transfer offer a couple of years ago. I just received a notice from the issuer that it was increasing my minimum payment from 2 percent to 5 percent. Clearly, I'm not profitable enough, and now it's seeking to get rid of me fast! Suggestions?

Answer: Many borrowers who have low fixed rates will probably lose them or see their terms change in coming months as credit card issuers cope with higher defaults and new federal regulations.

You have several options, none of which you'll like:

- You can pay off your balance at the new, faster rate, which will get you out of debt fairly quickly while preserving your current rate (unless your issuer changes its mind about that, too).

- You can transfer your balance to another low-rate offer, which probably won't be fixed and may not last very long.

- You can default on your debt if you can't afford the payments, which would trash your credit.

- You can learn that carrying credit card balances always has been and always will be a sucker's game.

Liz Pulliam Weston is the author of the book "Your Credit Score: Your Money and What's at Stake." Questions for possible inclusion in her column may be sent to 3940 Laurel Canyon Blvd., No. 238, Studio City, CA 91604, or via the "Contact Liz" form at www.asklizweston.com. Distributed by No More Red Inc.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Japanese yen (Aug. 17)	\$0.9400
South Korean won (Aug. 17)	1,202.00
Euro costs (Aug. 17)	\$1.4671
Dollar buys (Aug. 17)	€0.6816
British pound (Aug. 17)	£1.70

Commercial rates

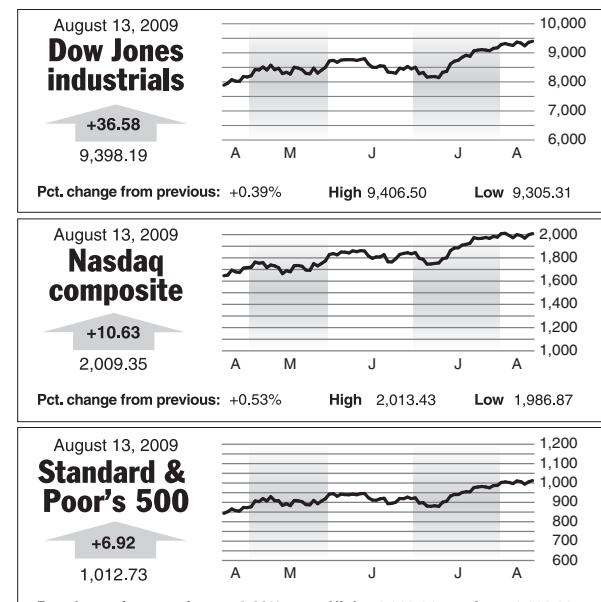
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3768
British pound	£1.6567
Canada (Dollar)	\$1.0869
China (Yuan)	6.8352
Denmark (Krone)	5.2274
Egypt (Pound)	5.5480
Euro	€1.4242/0.7022
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7506
Hungary (Forint)	190.37
Israel (Shekel)	3.7918
Japan (Yen)	94.45
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2872
Norway (Krone)	6.0660
Philippines (Peso)	47.89
Poland (Zloty)	2.90
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7503
Singapore (Dollar)	1.4431
South Korea (Won)	1,234.75
Switzerland (Franc)	1.0707
Thailand (Baht)	34.03
Turkey (New Lira)	1.4862

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	0.50
Federal funds market rate	0.00-0.25
3-month bill	0.16
10-year bond	4.43

Sources: Bank of America, The Associated Press

A DAY ON WALL STREET

SOURCE: SunGard



People look for jobs at the Los Angeles Mission Career Fair in June. Productivity surged in the spring by the largest amount in almost six years while labor costs plunged at the fastest pace in nine years.

Economy may be improving, but jobs are still hard to find

BY STEPHEN MANNING
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. employers who have cut jobs over the past year are in no hurry to start hiring again just because the recession is tapering off.

From a North Carolina machine maker to an Oregon heating-and-cooling company, small business owners say they need to see several months of rising sales before they start adding staff.

Because labor is the biggest expense for most companies, that kind of caution is typical at the end of recessions. After the last one, in 2001, unemployment kept rising and didn't peak until June 2003 — 19 months into the economic recovery.

This time around, some economists say unemployment may not return to healthy levels until 2013. Companies have been slashing workers' hours, squeezing more work out of the employees who are left and relying on cheaper temporary staffers to fill the gaps.

In North Carolina, a company called Power Curbers, which makes barriers and curbs for subdivisions, is finally breaking even after shedding 35 percent of its staff. The owner, Dyke Messinger, plans no more cuts.

Yet, he is wary of adding to the staff, which now numbers about 80. First he wants to see new orders.

"When you look out and see that the country has stabilized, that gives you confidence that you can hold on to everybody that you've got," he said. "But we will be very hesitant to hire until business turns up."

When the economic crisis struck last fall, many employers

steered themselves for the worst, laying off workers, cutting hours, imposing unpaid furloughs and cutting benefits.

Now that the economy is beginning to recover, some companies will find there are cheaper alternatives to bringing in new full-time workers. For example, they can increase the hours worked by the employees they already have. Right now, the average workweek is 33.1 hours, near a record low.

More significantly, businesses in this recession have managed to produce just as much with fewer workers. From April through June, productivity surged by the largest amount in nearly six years, the government said Tuesday.

When businesses are producing as much or more with fewer people, that makes the job market even more dismal for the unemployed.

"There's a lot of wiggle room before [companies] actually need to hire a new worker," said Daniel J. Meckstroth, chief economist for the Manufacturers Alliance/MAPI.

Daniel J. Meckstroth
Chief economist for the
Manufacturers Alliance/MAPI

"There's a lot of hope economic news doesn't impress Teresa Penhall, who runs a small heating-and-air company called Absolute Comfort in Klamath Falls, Ore. The housing collapse forced her to lay off two workers. Now, it's just Penhall and her husband.

The workload would have to double before the company hires again, Penhall said. But she doesn't see much demand for big work these days — just modest repair jobs on old air conditioners.

"People are calling us — not by choice but because they are hot," she said.

'Archie' collector bemoans proposal

BY JAMIE STENGLE
The Associated Press

DALLAS — When comic book store owner Dave Luebke heard that after 67 years, the carrot-topped everyman of the comic world, Archie, was proposing to va-va-voomy rich girl Veronica instead of girl-next-door Betty, he decided to protest by selling his copy of the series' rare first issue.

Luebke's Archie Comics No. 1 is expected to sell for around \$30,000 when Dallas' Heritage Auction Galleries offers it Friday.

"Betty is it. Not Veronica," said Luebke, whose Richmond, Va., store has more than 1 million comics in stock. "This is serious."

And, he said, 99 percent of his customers agree that perky, blond Betty is the clear

choice over shiny dark-haired Veronica in the seemingly never-ending love triangle.

"It's amazing how many stories they've gotten out of this over the years," said Barry Sandoval, Heritage director of operations of the comics division.

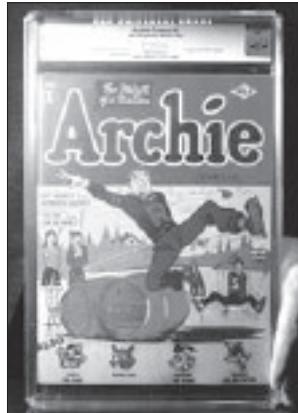
The Archie Comics Web site shows the proposal issue is followed by an issue with a cover featuring the couple at the altar, Veronica proclaiming "I do!" and Archie saying "Do I ever!" In the next issue, twins are on the way.

Gorelick remains coy, advising: "I just tell them to stick with it. Read through it and you'll see what happens. A lot happens. A lot goes on."

The Archie Comics Web site shows the proposal issue is followed by an issue with a cover featuring the couple at the altar, Veronica proclaiming "I do!" and Archie saying "Do I ever!" In the next issue, twins are on the way.

Tom Michael, a teen comics collector from Iola, Wis., believes all might not be what it seems. "I have a feeling that the last issues will have him asking Betty to marry him," Michael said.

Sandoval, who said Luebke's No. 1 is in excellent condition, suspects Luebke's reason for selling might have a bit more to do with the money than anger.



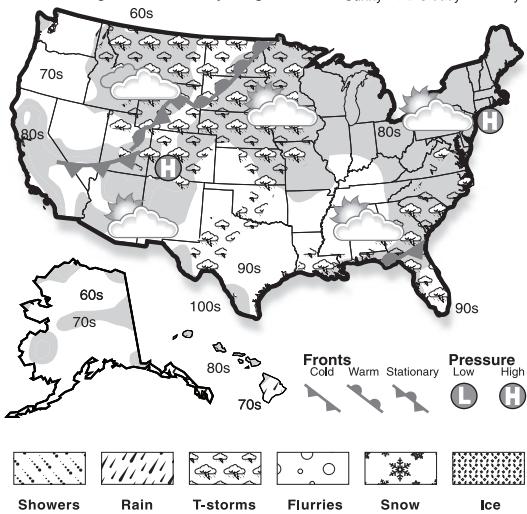
DONNA McWILLIAM/AP

The No. 1 issue of the Archie comic book is seen Aug. 7 at Heritage Galleries in Dallas.

WEATHER OUTLOOK

National forecast

Forecast highs for Saturday, Aug. 15



Large System Impacts Rockies, Plains and Midwest

A large low pressure system will impact much of the Plains and Rockies, bringing showers and storms. Cooler air will filter in after the front, causing temperatures to drop across the Northern Plains. Unsettled weather continues in the Southeast.

Weather Underground • AP

Friday's global temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	La Paz	60	28	Clr
Amsterdam	70	55	Clr	Lima	66	60	Clry
Athens	84	69	Clr	Lisbon	96	75	Clr
Auckland	60	51	Rain	London	74	60	Rain
Baghdad	105	78	Clr	Madrid	96	68	Clr
Basra	116	83	Clr	Managua	87	75	pc
Bahrain	97	86	Clr	Manila	84	77	Rain
Bangkok	94	81	pc	Mecca	110	85	Clr
Barbados	88	75	pc	Melbourne	62	45	Rain
Barcelona	86	75	Clr	Mexico City	78	51	Rain
Beijing	95	71	Clr	Montevideo	65	49	Clry
Beirut	89	75	Clr	Montreal	83	61	Clr
Belgrade	86	63	Clr	Moscow	77	53	pc
Berlin	73	57	Rain	Nairobi	83	53	pc
Bermuda	85	78	Clr	Nassau	95	79	Rain
Bogota	66	51	Rain	New Delhi	98	84	pc
Brasilia	78	59	pc	Nice	81	74	pc
Brisbane	75	49	Clr	Osaka	91	78	Rain
Brussels	70	55	Rain	Oslo	62	48	Rain
Bucharest	85	56	pc	Panama	96	76	Rain
Budapest	80	59	pc	Paris	71	62	Rain
Buenos Aires	66	53	Clry	Perth	69	51	Rain
Cairo	91	76	pc	Prague	72	59	Rain
Calgary	56	47	Rain	Rio de Janeiro	73	62	Clr
Caracas	91	78	Clr	Rome	91	69	Clr
Colombo	86	82	pc	San Jose	88	69	Rain
Copenhagen	72	56	Rain	San Juan	91	79	Rain
Dhahran	109	86	Clr	San Salvador	87	71	Rain
Dhaka	92	83	Rain	Santiago	66	48	pc
Dili	89	70	Clr	Sao Paulo	77	55	pc
Dubai	107	90	Clr	Sapporo	72	66	Rain
Dublin	61	52	pc	Seoul	87	69	pc
Frankfurt	74	60	Rain	Singapore	91	80	pc
Geneva	84	58	Clr	Sofia	84	56	Clr
Guatemala	78	62	pc	Stockholm	68	44	Rain
Hanoi	89	80	Rain	Sydney	69	48	Clr
Harare	78	53	pc	Taipei	93	78	pc
Havana	91	73	Rain	Tegucigalpa	85	63	pc
Helsinki	69	51	Rain	Tehran	102	78	Clr
Hong Kong	84	77	Rain	Tel Aviv	90	73	Clr
Islamabad	101	86	Clr	Tokyo	87	77	Rain
Istanbul	83	64	Clr	Turin	87	65	Rain
Jakarta	90	75	Clr	Toronto	77	66	Clr
Jerusalem	90	73	Clr	Tunis	93	74	Rain
Johannesburg	61	37	Clr	Vallarta	85	72	Clr
Kabul	98	64	Rain	Vancouver	64	56	Rain
Kiev	76	56	Rain	Vienna	78	61	Rain
Kuala Lumpur	89	77	Rain	Warsaw	71	55	Rain
Kuwait	113	87	Clr	Zurich	79	56	pc

SUNDAY'S FORECAST



Air Force Weather/www.afweather.af.mil

Saturday's U.S. temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	Casper	94	54	Rain	Erie	79	64	Clr	Jacksonville	90	73	Cldy	Montgomery	94	70	PClidy	Richmond	89	69	PClidy	Spokane	73	50	Cldy
Abilene,Tex.	95	73	PClidy	Charleston,S.C.	86	72	Rain	Eugene	70	46	PClidy	Juneau	67	77	Rain	Nashville	90	68	PClidy	Roanoke	86	67	Clidy	Springfield,Ill.	86	65	PClidy
Akron,Ohio	83	62	PClidy	Charleston,W.Va.	84	63	PClidy	Evansville	89	64	PClidy	Kansas City	90	70	Clry	New Orleans	93	76	PClidy	Rochester	82	65	PClidy	Springfield,Mo.	87	67	PClidy
Albany,N.Y.	78	63	Clr	Charlotte,N.C.	85	67	Clidy	Fairbanks	56	56	Clry	Key West	91	81	Rain	New York City	72	67	Clr	Rockford	83	63	Clr	Syracuse	85	64	Clr
Albuquerque	90	63	PClidy	Chattanooga	91	67	PClidy	Fargo	90	67	Clry	Knoxville	88	66	PClidy	Newark	73	66	PClidy	Sacramento	96	58	Clr	Tallahassee	89	74	Rain
Allentown,Pa.	78	62	PClidy	Cheyenne	91	55	Clidy	Flagstaff	69	51	Clry	Lake Charles	96	74	Clry	Norfolk,Va.	80	74	Clry	St Louis	87	68	PClidy	Tampa	91	77	Rain
Amarillo	88	62	PClidy	Chicago	86	69	Clr	Film	83	64	PClidy	Lansing	83	61	PClidy	North Platte	91	64	Clry	St Petersburg	90	79	Rain	Toledo	85	60	Clr
Anchorage	60	46	Rain	Cincinnati	84	62	Clr	Fort Smith	89	67	PClidy	Las Vegas	104	79	Clry	Oklahoma City	88	73	Clry	St Thomas	91	79	PClidy	Topeka	91	68	Cldy
Asheville	82	62	Clry	Cleveland	82	62	Clr	Fort Wayne	84	60	Clry	Lexington	85	66	PClidy	Omaha	91	70	Clry	Salem,Ore.	69	49	PClidy	Tucson	86	77	Clr
Atlanta	90	71	Clry	Colorado Springs	84	57	PClidy	Fresno	99	60	Clr	Lincoln	93	68	Clry	Orlando	94	74	Clry	Salt Lake City	96	61	Clry	Tulsa	90	72	PClidy
Atlantic City	76	66	PClidy	Columbia,S.C.	86	69	Clidy	Goodland	95	62	PClidy	Little Rock	88	68	PClidy	Paducah	86	64	PClidy	San Angelo	95	72	Clry	Tupelo	89	70	Clr
Austin	98	74	PClidy	Columbus,Ga.	91	72	Clry	Grand Junction	87	63	Clry	Los Angeles	78	63	PClidy	Pendleton	75	52	PClidy	San Antonio	99	76	PClidy	Waco	96	76	PClidy
Baltimore	84	67	PClidy	Columbus,Ohio	84	66	Clr	Grand Rapids	83	61	PClidy	Louisville	87	67	PClidy	Peoria	83	65	PClidy	San Diego	72	65	Clry	Washington,D.C.	87	69	Clidy
Baton Rouge	94	72	PClidy	Concord,N.H.	74	62	Clr	Great Falls	67	48	Clry	Lubbock	93	66	Clry	Philadelphia	78	68	PClidy	San Francisco	76	56	Clry	W.Palm Beach	92	80	PClidy
Billings	86	54	Rain	Corpus Christi	97	76	PClidy	Green Bay	83	64	PClidy	Macon	92	73	Clry	Phoenix	95	83	Clry	San Jose	83	59	Clry	Wichita	91	71	Cldy
Birmingham	91	71	PClidy	Dallas-Ft Worth	95	77	PClidy	Greensboro,N.C.	86	67	PClidy	Madison	83	64	PClidy	Pittsburgh	84	64	PClidy	Panama City	91	78	Rain	Wichita Falls	94	74	PClidy
Bismarck	96	63	Rain	Dayton	82	64	Clr	Harrisburg	83	65	PClidy	Medford	83	49	Clry	Portland,Maine	71	64	Clry	Portland,Ore.	90	55	PClidy	Wilkes-Barre	80	64	Clr
Boise	82	51	Clr	Daytona Beach	93	76	PClidy	Hartford Spfgd	73	62	Clry	Memphis	89	73	Clry	Portland,Ore.	70	55	Clry	Savannah	86	72	Rain	Wilmington,Del.	78	67	PClidy
Boston	70	66	Clr	Denver	92	59	Clidy	Honolulu	84	75	Clr	Midland-Odessa	95	71	Clry	Providence	69	65	Clry	Seattle	65	53	PClidy	Yakima	78	51	PClidy
Bridgeport	76	64	Clr	Des Moines	91	68	Clidy	Houston	97	76	PClidy	Milwaukee	83	67	PClidy	Raleigh-Durham	81	68	Clry	Sioux City	91	69	Clry	Youngstown	84	60	PClidy
Brownsville	96	77	PClidy	Detroit	85	67	PClidy	Huntsville	91	68	PClidy	Mpls-St Paul	83	71	PClidy	Rapid City	97	62	Rain	Sioux Falls	87	70	Clry				
Buffalo	84	66	PClidy	Duluth	84	63	Clidy	Indianapolis	85	62	Clry	Missoula	64	48	Clry	Mobile	93	73	Clry	Reno	89	53	Clry				
Burlington,Vt.	85	62	Clr	El Paso	95	69	PClidy	Jackson,Miss.	91	68	PClidy								South Bend	85	61	Clry					
Caribou,Maine	80	63	Clr	Elkins	81	61	PClidy																				

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Mail us at:
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Announcements 040



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Autos for Sale 141

Autos for Sale 141

Foster - 1995 Honda Odyssey, Cold A/C, Excellent running condition, JCI good till Nov 2010, \$2,800 OBO. Call 090-4324-3614 or after hours call (Bill) @ 098-932-5125 asking

Courtney, Okinawa - 96 Luxury Toyota Estima Van. Well Maintained. Clean & Dependable. 73,195 miles, Auto DK Blue ext, C/D Power Steering/locks/windows, and 2009 Rad tar/pain. Runs great, new air filter & battery, A/C \$1800.00. Firm, email: ben2355@hotmail.com, 646-4774

Hansen, Okinawa - 1998 Mitsubishi Chariot. Automatic White exterior, Brown interior. Power Windows, power locks, A/C, Power steering, Power brakes, Power windows, Rear Window Wiper/Tinted Windows, Navigation System, S/M, m.i.l, marinebackfromjapan@yahoo.com, Lynn.caskey@usmc.mil, 0803-199251 (Cell phone), 623-6113 (H) 623-4647 (W)

Kadena, Okinawa - 1999 DK Toyota Vitz. Great buy, in good condition, great A/C. Asking \$4000 USD. 93K KM. JCI due 2010 Call 080-3993-2555/080-3993-2554 or email steph6245@aol.com for more info and pictures

Lester - 1997 Daihatsu Pyzar \$1750.00. Cold AC. New brake pads. Excellent condition! Great gas mileage! \$146-4828 or 080-1766-8524

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STARS AND STRIPES

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7-23-17 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0032 Japan

STRIPES CLASSIFIED

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A wide-angle, black and white photograph of the BMW Welt building in Munich. The building features a large, curved, metallic roof and a prominent cylindrical tower with horizontal bands. In the foreground, a modern bridge spans a road. The sky is overcast.

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Home Electronics 570

Yokota, Japan - 21 ps2 games and 1 ps1 game. We play station or play ps2. Lego Batman, Lego Star Wars, Lego Star Wars II, Mortal Combat Deception, Mortal Combat Shogun Monks, Backyard Football 2006, MLB Power Pros, MLB 2k5, The grim Adventures of Billy and Mandy, UFG, Sudden Impact, Nicktoon Untie, Star Wars Battlefront, Star Wars Battlefront: Point of the Caribbean at world's end, Crash Twin Sancty, Burnout 3 Takedown, Thrillville, Crash Mind of Muntant, The Biggs, MLB 06 the show, Spiderman 3 and the play station game of Casper. They all have the instruction booklets, but the game are in two DVD/CD cases. (I am wanting to sell the whole lot together and do not want to divide the lot). Asking \$75 Please call 407-373-1327 or email kristlehan@hotmail.com

Home Electronics 570

Yokota, Japan - Selling a red ring Xbox 360. Reason why selling, I don't want to put the money to ship to America and I also while get paid once were in Japan. The Xbox works 30mins then some reason freezes then red ring. But it works again after 10min cool down. I don't know why it does that but I'm done with it. So if interested in fixing it yourself or sending it elsewhere please message me a reasonable price. Comes with Red Ring Xbox 360 (console) AV cables, Power cable, Make me an offer. Please e-mail gatordude_94@yahoo.com

Outdoor Living 775

Yokota, Japan - Two Person Trail Tent Camouflage Brand New. Factory I have a brand new, sealed, never opened 2 person trail tent. The size is 7' x 4'6" with center height of 38". I got it hoping to go camping but never got around to it. Asking \$15 Please call 8583686846 or email jcwang77@aol.com

Pets 820

Yokota, Japan - Adorable bunny! Must find Good Home ASAP. I really need to find a home for him to buy a Jumbi. He's grey and has grey blue eyes. He loves to be held once he gets to know you. He does not boring at all. Loves to go outside and play in his play pen, loves to be out in the grass or just run around. I have to give him a lot of exercise because he is very active and no time to spend with him.

He's all alone in the house all day. I hate that he doesn't have anyone to play with. So he needs kids to play with and give him the love and care he deserves. Comes with harness and leash, remaining food, cage and hay. Please call before you email 08034591768 / (512)-275-4895 (H) Free to good loving home

Pet Accessories 822

Yokota, Japan - Dog Kennel. Only 7 months old, still in good condition. There is nothing wrong with the dog just grew too fast. It is 36x25x20 inches. It's for large dogs but would be better for a medium size dog. Asking \$50.00 Please call 617-896-4623 or email gashandgufo4@hotmail.com

Pets Wanted 826

Iwakuni - We have just moved to Iwakuni. We are looking for a cat or kitten that is GOON with kids and very friendly. If you have a kitty in need of a home please contact me ASAP at ashleyminnich@hotmail.com Please have the kitty up to date on shots.

Pets 820

Yokota, Japan - Free Dog Owner can no longer care for his dog. He is 10 years old, I'm assisting him to find a home for his dog. Needs shots. Call (323)338-7553 or email mdfisherman@hotmail.com

Photography 830

Yokota, Japan - Canon 40 DW grip 50 1.8, kit lens package deal Canon 40d, battery grip, two batteries, 50 1.8 lens, and 18-55 kit lens. Rarely used, was my back up camera. Asking \$650 Please call 080-3755-3434 or email grant@fslimages.com

Yokota, Japan - Light blue Canon Camera-Each 2 use 10m p. My daughter is selling her light blue canon camera. There's absolutely nothing wrong w/ it. We kept the orig. box, paperwork, etc. The SD card that came w/ the camera is still sealed up-brand new w/ case. Plus, we are also going to include another SD card 1GB. Very simple to use! 10 megapixels, 4x optical zoom, optical image stabilizer, large LCD screen, face detection, digital red eye correction, movie features, easy mode, and many more great features. She is only asking \$100 for this or if not home, please leave message 916-220-4488 thank you. Must Go Now!

Yokota, Japan - Nikon lenses

Nikon Super Wide Angle AF Nikkor 20mm f/2.8D Autofocus Lens with a 62mm Ultraviolet UV Haze filter and a Hoya 62mm (Moose) Warm Circular Polarizing Glass Filter \$250 OBO and 1 shot lens, 18-55mm VR Angle AF Nikkor 28mm f/2.8D Autofocus lens with a 52mm tiffen haze filter \$150 OBO Please call 407-373-1342 or email owner@trandell.com

Homes/Condos - US 868

I have a Condo for sale in central Ft Myers in South West Florida. Its 20 minutes to the Airport and 10 minutes to the beach. It is a 1 bedroom and 1 bath freshly painted with woods floors and all appliance are included. The Condo is offer at \$37,500.00 there is a pool and the dues are 139.00 which include water, trash and building insurance. You only have to pay for maintenance insurance. About 800 Sq Ft. Contact John M Dupree B CO 602 ASB Unit 15203 Box 522 APO AP 96271, 940-220-7121, Korea Cell 011-82-10-2402-0052

Sporting Goods 980

Yokota, Japan - New SPYDER Snowboarding Gloves Size XL. Bought last year and got deployed and now PCS'ing to Guam. Selling for \$30 call 407-373-1342 or email owner@trandell.com

Yokota, Japan - NWT VANS Snowboarding Boots and Flow Bindings Vans Danny Kass 14

2008. Flow Team - All-Mountain Freestyle Vans Snowboard Bindings. Brand New and never used. Bought last year and the got deployed and now PCS'ing to Guam in Nov for 4 yrs paid over \$500 and will to part for \$400 call 407-373-1342 or email owner@trandell.com

Sporting Goods 980

Yokota, Japan - Elliptical The asking price at the BXtra is 390. To make more room I the house, Asking \$200 OBO Please call 646 381 009 or email mickyjabbott@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - New SPYDER Snowboarding Gloves Size XL. Bought last year and got deployed and now PCS'ing to Guam. Selling for \$30 call 407-373-1342 or email owner@trandell.com

Yokota, Japan - NWT VANS Snowboarding Boots and Flow Bindings Vans Danny Kass 14

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Yokota, Japan - Smart Nav 4.3 inch Portable GPS system. Never been used. Three national languages, Chinese, American, Japanese, Music, moving pictures and photo playable. Paid \$500. Asking \$375. If interested please Mike or Julie by calling 763-354-3551.

Miscellaneous 1040

Yokota, Japan - Misc DVDs for sale Short Circuit (new still wrapped) \$10 007 the world is

not enough \$5 King Kong \$5 ER

Season 5 \$15 Take all for \$30

Please call 090-9806-3464 or email chris_japan03@yahoo.com

Miscellaneous 1040

Yokota, Japan - Men in Black 2. I bought it but forgot I already own it. I opened it once. It is a Japanese version so it is region 2. It has Japanese subtitles, English subtitles, Japanese language and English language. You can choose. This is perfect for those of you with Japanese wives like myself I purchased it for 2,500yen from Tsutaya off base. You can have it today for 1,000 yen. Please call 090-9806-3464 or email chris_japan03@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - New SPYDER Snowboarding Gloves Size XL. Bought last year and got deployed and now PCS'ing to Guam. Selling for \$30 call 407-373-1342 or email owner@trandell.com

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Miscellaneous 1040

Yokota, Japan - Nikon lenses

Nikon Super Wide Angle AF

Nikkor 20mm f/2.8D Autofocus

Lens with a 62mm Ultraviolet

UV Haze filter and a Hoya

62mm (Moose) Warm Circular

Polarizing Glass Filter \$250 OBO

and 1 shot lens, 18-55mm VR

Angle AF Nikkor 28mm f/2.8D

Autofocus lens with a 52mm

tiffen haze filter \$150 OBO

Please call 407-373-1342 or

email owner@trandell.com

Yokota, Japan - New Ignis

Snowboarding Goggles - color

Black and Size LG asking \$20

Please call 407-373-1342 or

email owner@trandell.com

Yokota, Japan - Misc DVDs for

sale Short Circuit (new still

wrapped) \$10 007 the world is

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with new contract

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Effective Cost
with new contract

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→ **¥1,029 ~ ¥4,410**

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- White Plan (i) is a 2-year contract that renews automatically.
- This campaign does not apply in cases of cancellation or transfer, price plan change, upgrade to a non-iPhone model, or cancellation of the 2-year contract or Packet Flat-rate Full contract.
- A contract cancellation fee of ¥9,975 (tax included) will be levied if the contract is cancelled at any time other than during the renewal month (the billing month following the month of contract expiration).
- The Effective Cost represents the difference between the monthly handset installment and the Monthly Discount.

- 8 GB model: The Effective Cost of ¥0 is based on a payment plan of 24 monthly installments of ¥1,280 (tax included). (Payment over 26 months, with an annual interest rate of 0%). Single-payment price is ¥30,720.
- The Effective Cost may not be ¥0 if the discount is rendered ineffective due to contract cancellation or change, handset up-grade, or other applicable conditions.
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SCOREBOARD

Sports on AFN

Pro football

NFL preseason

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	1	0	0	1.000	27	25
N.Y. Jets	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Miami	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Buffalo	0	1	0	.000	18	21
South						
Tennessee	1	0	0	1.000	21	18
Indianapolis	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Houston	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Jacksonville	0	0	0	.000	0	0
North						
Baltimore	1	0	0	1.000	23	0
Pittsburgh	1	0	0	1.000	20	10
Cincinnati	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Cleveland	0	0	0	.000	0	0
West						
Oakland	1	0	0	1.000	31	10
Denver	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Kansas City	0	0	0	.000	0	0
San Diego	0	0	0	.000	0	0
NATIONAL CONFERENCE						
East						
N.Y. Giants	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Dallas	0	1	0	.000	10	31
Philadelphia	0	1	0	.000	25	27
Washington	0	1	0	.000	0	23
South						
New Orleans	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Tampa Bay	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Carolina	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Atlanta	0	0	0	.000	0	0
North						
Chicago	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Detroit	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Green Bay	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Minnesota	0	0	0	.000	0	0
San Francisco	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Seattle	0	0	0	.000	0	0
St. Louis	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Arizona	0	1	0	.000	10	20
Sunday's game						
Tennessee 21, Buffalo 18						
Thursday's games						
New England 27, Philadelphia 25						
Baltimore 23, Washington 0						
Pittsburgh 20, Arizona 10						
Oakland 31, Dallas 10						
Friday's games						
St. Louis at N.Y. Jets						
Minnesota at Indianapolis						
Cincinnati at New Orleans						
Denver at San Francisco						
Saturday's games						
Atlanta at Chicago						
Chicago at Buffalo						
Tampa Bay at Tennessee						
Cleveland at Green Bay						
Houston at Kansas City						
Seattle at San Diego						
Monday, Aug. 17						
Jacksonville at Miami						
Carolina at N.Y. Giants						

Sunday's game
Tennessee 21, Buffalo 18
Thursday's games
New England 27, Philadelphia 25
Baltimore 23, Washington 0
Pittsburgh 20, Arizona 10
Oakland 31, Dallas 10
Friday's games
St. Louis at N.Y. Jets
Minnesota at Indianapolis
Cincinnati at New Orleans
Denver at San Francisco
Saturday's games
Atlanta at Chicago
Chicago at Buffalo
Tampa Bay at Tennessee
Cleveland at Green Bay
Houston at Kansas City
Seattle at San Diego
Monday, Aug. 17
Jacksonville at Miami
Carolina at N.Y. Giants

College football

USA Today preseason Top 25

The USA Today preseason Top 25 football coaches poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, team's 2008 records, total points based on 25 points for first place through one point for 25th and final 2008 poll ranking:

Record	Pts	Rank	2008
1. Florida (53)	1,466	1	
2. Texas (4)	1,386	3	
3. Oklahoma (1)	1,358	5	
4. Southern Cal (1)	1,321	2	
5. Alabama	1,134	6	
6. Ohio State	1,126	11	
7. Virginia Tech	1,020	14	
8. Penn State	988	8	
9. LSU	917	nr	
10. Mississippi	889	15	
11. Oklahoma State	861	18	
12. California	711	25	
13. Georgia	707	10	
14. Oregon	694	9	
15. Georgia Tech	559	22	
16. Boise State	542	13	
17. TCU	461	7	
18. Utah	404	4	
19. Florida State	371	23	
20. North Carolina	293	nr	
21. Iowa	257	20	
22. Nebraska	236	nr	
23. Notre Dame	194	nr	
24. Brigham Young	178	21	
25. Oregon State	165	19	

AP sport spotlight

Aug. 16
1920 — Cleveland shortstop Ray Chapman is hit in the head by a pitch thrown by New York's Carl Mays. Chapman suffers a fractured skull and dies the next day. It's the only on-field fatality in major league history.

1954 — The first Sports Illustrated magazine is issued with a 25-cent price tag. The scene on the cover was a game at Milwaukee's County Stadium. Eddie Mathews of the Braves was swinging with Wes Westrum catching and Augie Donatelli umpiring.

1980 — Clint Galbraith drives Niatross to a world record for a one-mile pace with a time of 1:52 1/5 in a special invitation race at the State Fairgrounds in Syracuse, N.Y. Niatross eclipses the record he shared with Abercrombie by 1/5 of a second and wins the race by 21 lengths.

2006 — Roger Federer's 55-match winning streak in North America comes to an

Tennis

Rogers Cup

Thursday

At Uniprix Stadium

Montreal

Purse: \$3 million (**Masters 1000**)

Surface: Hard-Outdoor

Singles:

Third Round

Novak Djokovic (4), Serbia, def. Mikhail Youzhny, Russia, 6-3, 6-4.

Juan Martin del Potro (6), Argentina, def. Victor Hanescu, Romania, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Andy Murray (3), Britain, def. Juan Carlos Ferrero, Spain, 6-1, 6-3.

Andy Roddick (5), United States, def. Fernando Verdasco (10), Spain, 7-6 (2), 4-6, 7-6 (5).

Nikolay Davydenko (8), Russia, def. Fernando Gonzalez (11), Chile, 7-6 (2), 7-5.

Rafael Nadal (2), Spain, def. Philipp Petzschner, Germany, 6-3, 6-2.

Roger Federer (1), Switzerland, def. Stanislas Wawrinka, Switzerland, 6-3, 7-6 (5).

Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (7), France, def. Gilles Simon, France, 6-3, 6-3.

Doubles

Second Round

Wesley Moodie (South Africa, and Dick Norman (5), Belgium, def. Feliciano Lopez and Fernando Verdasco, Spain, 7-6 (7), 6-5 (5).

Lukasz Kubot, Poland, and Oliver Marach (Austria), def. Frank Dancevic and Pierre-Ludovic Duclous, Canada, 6-2, 6-3.

Bob and Mike Bryan (1), United States, def. Robert Lindstedt, Sweden, and Marcelo Melo, Brazil, 6-4, 7-5.

Quarters

Max Mirnyi, Belarus, and Andy Ram (7), Israel, def. Lukas Dlouhy, Czech Republic, and Philipp Petzschner, Germany, 6-2, 6-3.

Finals

Nuria Llagostera Vives and Maria Jose Martinez Sanchez (7), Spain, def. Maria Kirilenko and Elena Vesnina, Russia, 6-2, 6-2.

Akgul Amanmuradova, Uzbekistan, and Monica Niculescu, Romania, def. Alona and Kateryna Bondarenko, Ukraine, 6-4, 6-4, 10-6.

Cara Black, Zimbabwe, and Liezel Huber (1), United States, def. Bethanie Mattek-Sands, United States, and Nadia Petrova (8), Russia, 6-4, 1-6, 13-11.

Pro soccer

MLS

Eastern Conference

W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Columbus	9	3	9	36	32
Chicago	8	4	8	32	28
D.C.	6	4	10	28	34
Toronto FC	7	7	6	27	28
New England	6	6	6	24	20
Kansas City	5	7	6	21	20
New York	2	15	4	16	37

Western Conference

W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Houston	11	6	5	38	30
Los Angeles	7	3	10	31	25
Colorado	8	6	3	30	32
Seattle	7	5	8	29	26
Chivas USA	8	7	3	27	19
Real Salt Lake	7	8	5	26	29
FC Dallas	6	9	5	23	29
San Jose	4	11	5	17	25

Note: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Saturday's games

D.C. United at Toronto FC
Chivas USA at New York
FC Dallas at Columbus
Houston at Real Salt Lake
Seattle FC at Los Angeles

Sunday's game

Chicago at Kansas City

Wednesday, Aug. 19

Los Angeles at Chicago

Thursday, Aug. 20

New England at Seattle

Saturday, Aug. 22

Kansas City at San Jose

Toronto FC at Chivas

Wednesday, Aug. 19

Sky Blue FS at Washington

Saturday, Aug. 22

Sky Blue FC-Washington winner at Saint Louis

Championship

Saturday, Aug. 22

Semifinal winner at Los Angeles

WPS

Playoffs

First Round

Saturday, Aug. 15

Sky Blue FS at Washington

Semifinal

Wednesday, Aug. 19

Sky Blue FC-Washington winner at Saint Louis

Championship

Saturday, Aug. 22

Semifinal winner at Los Angeles

Sunday's game

Seattle at Atlanta

Monday, Aug. 17

Minnesota at Chicago

Tuesday, Aug. 18

Phoenix at San Antonio

Wednesday, Aug. 19

Los Angeles at Sacramento

Sunday's game

New York at Washington

NBA calendar

Sept. 10-11 — Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame Induction ceremonies, Springfield, Mass.

Cincinnati Open

Thursday

At The Lindner Family Tennis Center

Mason, Ohio

Purse: \$2 million (**Premier**)

Surface: Hard-Outdoor

Singles

Third Round

Flavia Pennetta (14), Italy, def. Venus Williams (3), United States, 7-6 (2), 6-4.

Caroline Wozniacki (8), Denmark, def. Melinda Czink, Hungary, 3-0, retired.

Daniela Hantuchova, Slovakia, def. Vera Zvonareva (7), Russia, 7-6 (6), 6-0, 6-5.

Kim Clijsters, Belgium, def. Svetlana Kuznetsova (6), Russia, 6-4, 4-6, 6-2.

Elena Dementieva (4), Russia, def. Sorana Cirstea, Romania, 6-4, 6-4.

Sybille Bammer, Austria, def. Serena Williams (2), United States, 7-5, 6-4.

Williams (1), United States, def. Venus Williams (3), United States, 7-6 (2), 6-4.

Flavia Pennetta (14), Italy, def. Venus Williams (3), United States, 7-6 (2), 6-4.

Caroline Wozniacki (8), Denmark, def. Melinda Czink, Hungary, 3-0, retired.

Daniela Hantuchova, Slovakia, def. Vera Zvonareva (7), Russia, 7-6 (6), 6-0, 6-5.

Flavia Pennetta (14), Italy, def. Venus Williams (3), United States, 7-6 (2), 6-4.

Caroline Wozni

Sports briefs

Woman: Pitino in plot to keep me silent

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The woman accused of trying to extort \$10 million from Rick Pitino over a sexual encounter said the Louisville basketball coach orchestrated a plot to keep her silent, including a claim that her current husband was paid to marry her.

Karen Cunagin Sypher, whose extortion charge is pending, said in Friday's editions of the New York Post that Pitino, a married father of five, engaged her in 2003 at a Louisville restaurant, where the sexual encounter is said to have occurred. Pitino admitted to the tryst Wednesday and issued a public apology.

The Post reported that Sypher, divorced at the time, went on to claim that her subsequent marriage to Tim Sypher — Pitino's equipment manager — was all part of an elaborate plot Pitino used to keep the incident private.

"The feds bugged my house and put surveillance everywhere with Tim's help," said Karen Sypher, who is going through a divorce. "I now think my husband was paid to marry me."

Her claims in the Post story are similar to comments contained in the police documents that were made public this week. Pitino's attorney called Karen Sypher's allegations of a plot to keep her silent a "complete fabrication."

"Karen Sypher promised that if coach Pitino did not pay her \$10 million, she was going to embarrass him," attorney Steve Pence said Friday. "This is part of that promise."

Pitino's job at Louisville appears safe after school president James Ramsey said Thursday it was time to move on and that the coach is "our guy."

Man charged in Victorino dousing

CHICAGO — Police charged a 21-year-old man with two misdemeanor counts Thursday in connection with a beer-throwing incident that showered Philadelphia Phillies center fielder Shane Victorino.

John Macchione of Bartlett, Ill., was charged with one count of battery and one count of illegal conduct within a sports facility, according to police.

Victorino was hit by a cup of beer thrown from the bleachers while trying to catch a fly ball in the Phillies' 12-5 victory over the Chicago Cubs on Wednesday night.

The All-Star outfielder managed to make the grab, and Cubs chairman Crane Kenney apologized to him in person before Thursday's game. Cubs manager Lou Piniella and general manager Jim Hendry also apologized to Victorino.

Victorino filed a police report Thursday. Shortly after the game, police said a man turned himself in.

In other baseball news:

■ Mariners third baseman Adrian Beltre was put on the 15-day disabled list because of an injury to a testicle Thursday, one day after taking a hard one-hopper off the bat of Chicago's Alexei Ramirez to his groin area.

■ The Cincinnati Reds traded shortstop Alex Gonzalez to the Boston Red Sox for minor league infielder Kristopher Negron. Gonzalez is hitting .210 with three home runs and 26 RBIs.

Phelps unhurt in car crash

BALTIMORE — Baltimore police said the other driver was at fault in a minor crash involving Olympic champion Michael Phelps.

Police spokesman Anthony Guglielmi said the female driver ran a red light in her Honda Accord sedan and crashed in an intersection with Phelps' Cadillac Escalade SUV. It was not clear if police had



BRIAN BOHANNON/AP

Karen Cunagin Sypher, charged with attempting to extort \$10 million from Rick Pitino, says the Louisville basketball coach orchestrated a plot to keep her silent, including paying her current husband to marry her.

issued a citation to the woman.

The 14-time gold medalist was not injured in Thursday night's crash. The unidentified woman was taken to a hospital as a precaution.

Phelps lives and trains in Baltimore and recently returned from the world swimming championships in Rome, where he won five golds and a silver.

Guglielmi said Phelps had not been drinking. The 24-year-old pleaded guilty to drunken driving in 2004 and was sentenced to 18 months' probation.

Phelps' SUV had a crumpled hood and was on a tow truck. The gray Accord had considerable damage on the front driver side.

Heat get Richardson from T-wolves

MIAMI — Quentin Richardson was traded for the fourth time since the end of last season, moving from the Minnesota Timberwolves to the Miami Heat on Thursday night in exchange for center Mark Blount.

Richardson, who can play both shooting guard and small forward, is a close friend and workout partner of Heat star Dwyane Wade, the reigning NBA scoring champion.

Richardson averaged 10.2 points last season for New York Knicks. He was first traded to Memphis, then to the Los Angeles Clippers, then Minnesota and now to Miami.

Blount only appeared in 20 games for the Heat last season, averaging 4.0 points. He missed much of the season tending to personal and family matters in Haiti following the death of a close relative.

In other basketball news:

■ Germany will be without Dirk Nowitzki at next month's European Championship in Poland because Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban would not allow the NBA All-Star to take part.

■ Milwaukee police said European league basketball player Lavelle Felton, 29, died from a gunshot wound he suffered this week while leaving a gas station.

IOC to move faster on Jones' medals

BERLIN — The IOC agreed to speed up the process of determining whether to redistribute the medals stripped from Marion Jones for doping at the 2000 Sydney Olympics.

The decision was reached Friday at a joint meeting of the International Olym-

pic Committee executive board and the council of the International Association of Athletics Federations.

IOC president Jacques Rogge said that the world athletics federation pushed to expedite the resolution of the cases.

The American lost all five of her medals, including three gold, after admitting in 2007 that she was using performance-enhancing drugs at the time of the Games.

The IOC has held off reallocating the medals to other athletes, pending more evidence in the BALCO steroid probe and appeals by Jones' relay teammates.

In other Olympic news:

■ International Olympic leaders voted Thursday to recommend that golf and rugby be added to the 2016 Games, but not softball and baseball.

Donovan tests positive for swine flu

LOS ANGELES — Los Angeles Galaxy forward Landon Donovan tested positive for swine flu, although the team is optimistic he can play Saturday night.

Donovan was to be evaluated by a doctor Friday and Saturday, the Galaxy said. Donovan, David Beckham and Chris Birchall were given the day off from training Friday after returning from games with their national teams.

The Galaxy are home Saturday night against the Seattle Sounders.

"We're still hoping he'll be available and ready to go," team spokesman Justin Pearson said. "Even Landon said it hasn't hit him as hard as the normal flus have hit him."

Donovan told The Los Angeles Times that he had been feeling ill since joining the U.S. national soccer team in Florida on Sunday.

Donovan is not infectious, coach and general manager Bruce Arena told the Times.

Arena said Donovan is believed to have contracted the virus from two Galaxy staff members who came down with it during last weekend's game at New England.

Baffert joins Racing Hall of Fame

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. — Threetime Kentucky Derby-winning trainer Bob Baffert was inducted into the Racing Hall of Fame along with trainer Janet Eliot, jockey Eddie Maple and three horses.

Baffert has won eight Triple Crown races and three Eclipse Awards as the nation's outstanding trainer during a 30-plus-year career. He also has won seven Breeders' Cup races and developed 10 champions, including Silverbulletday, who was among Friday's inductees.

Elliot, who primarily trained steeplechase horses, is the first female trainer elected to the Hall of Fame and just the second woman.

Maple rode 4,398 winners during a career that ended in 1998 after three decades.

Besides Silverbulletday, Tiznow and steeplechase champion Ben Nevis II were the horses inducted.

Grand jury hears Kane case

BUFFALO, N.Y. — A grand jury is expected to decide next week whether Chicago Blackhawks forward Patrick Kane should face criminal charges after a dispute that left a cab driver in his hometown of Buffalo bruised and with broken glasses.

The Erie County District Attorney's Office presented the case to a grand jury Thursday. District Attorney Frank Sedita III said the panel is expected to report

its findings next week.

Patrick Kane and his cousin, James Kane, were arrested by Buffalo police early Sunday after cabby Jan Radecki, 62, reported the pair beat him up after he told them he didn't have 20 cents change when they paid the fare.

The Kanes pleaded not guilty to robbery and other charges after spending more than two hours in jail.

Nadal's knees hold up

MONTREAL — Rafael Nadal's knees stood up just fine at Uniprix Stadium.

The world's second-ranked tennis player breezed to a 6-3, 6-2 victory over Philipp Petzschner during third-round play in the Rogers Cup on Thursday, in the first real test of the tendinitis in both knees that sidelined him 10 weeks.

Nadal's first match Wednesday night was cut short when opponent David Ferrer retired midway through the first set because of a sore knee of his own.

"The movements were a little bit better, but I need more matches to get the rhythm," said Nadal, the tournament's defending champion.

"I need to adjust the legs and feet more to play some shots, but I'm very happy because I'm in the quarterfinals, which is more than I expected when I came here."

Nadal was among the eight top-ranked players in the world to reach the quarterfinals, the first time that's happened at an ATP tournament since rankings were introduced in 1973. They are: Roger Federer, Nadal, Andy Murray, Novak Djokovic, Andy Roddick, Juan Martin Del Porto, Jo-Wilfried Tsonga and Nikolay Davydenko.

In other tennis news:

■ It wasn't the Williams sisters day. Venus Williams routinely missed shots throughout a 7-6 (2), 6-4 loss to Italy's Flavia Pennetta on Thursday, the first major upset in the Cincinnati Open at Mason, Ohio. She made 38 unforced errors. A few hours later, younger sister Serena played on the same court and played even worse. She had 44 unforced errors during a 7-5, 6-4 loss to Austria's Sybille Bammer.

Earnhardt pushes for change

BROOKLYN, Mich. — Dale Earnhardt Jr. said NASCAR's brand of on-track action has fallen flat lately, and he believes changes to the sport's new car design are in order.

Speaking before Friday's practice at Michigan International Speedway, Earnhardt said NASCAR needs to do more to entice fans and corporate America — even in good economic times, but especially when it's bad.

Earnhardt praised NASCAR officials' recent decision to allow double-file restarts after caution flags, but said the sport needs "more of that."

Elsewhere ...

■ South Africans will receive 120,000 free tickets to next year's World Cup, a move organizers said will ensure that South Africa's poor share in becoming the first African nation to host the world's most popular sporting event.

■ Vitali Klitschko said David Haye might have burned the bridge leading to three of the four major heavyweight title belts. Klitschko and his manager said it's highly unlikely the Klitschko brothers, who hold three titles between them, will give a title fight to Haye, the English cruiserweight champion who backed out of deals to fight both brothers this autumn.

Sabathia, Yankees overpower Mariners

BY GREGG BELL

The Associated Press

SEATTLE — If Mr. August, CC Sabathia, keeps pitching like this — and if Hideki Matsui keeps hitting like this — Alex Rodriguez, Jorge Posada and the rest of the banged-up New York Yankees can afford to extend days off into mini vacations.

Derek Jeter homered before leaving early to rest, Matsui had his fourth career two-home run game and a season-high five RBIs and Sabathia struck out a season-high 10 as New York began its longest road trip of the year with an 11-1 victory over the Seattle Mariners on Thursday night.

The Yankees had a 5-0 lead one out into the third inning without Alex Rodriguez, who may also miss Friday's game because of a bruised elbow, and without Posada, their bruised catcher who said he could have played.

They didn't need them. The Yankees rolled on, winning for the 10th time in 11 games to increase their lead in the AL East over the Boston Red Sox to 6 1/2 games.

The 10-game trip includes three more games at Seattle and three each at Oakland and Boston.

"When you have pitching like this, you really don't need too many runs," deadpanned Jeter, who hit his 14th home run, then departed in the eighth inning to rest a bruised right foot.

Sabathia (13-7) mixed a 96 mph fastball with sinkers and dancing off-speed pitches that had the AL's lowest-scoring team flailing. He allowed just three hits and a solo home run in eight innings. It was his fifth victory in six decisions. He improved his career record in August to 31-9.

"I've been pitching ahead in the count," Sabathia said. "And when I'm pitching ahead, I can pretty much put guys away."

Recently acquired Jerry Hairston Jr. again proved to be an invaluable fill-in with a double, single and two RBIs subbing for Rodriguez at third base.

"When you can give a guy a day off and subs can contribute like that, it's huge," manager Joe Girardi said, adding that it was "50-50" whether Rodriguez would play on Friday.

Matsui hit his 18th and 19th homers in a temporary return to the cleanup spot usually occupied by Rodriguez. After the game, with ice packs on both knees, Matsui said that being used exclusively as a designated hitter to protect his legs has helped his hitting.

Matt Snell (0-1) allowed nine hits and eight runs in six-plus innings.

MLB scoreboard

American League

East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
New York	72	43	.626	—
Boston	65	49	.570	6 1/2
Tampa Bay	61	53	.535	10 1/2
Toronto	54	59	.478	17
Baltimore	47	67	.412	24 1/2

Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Detroit	60	54	.526	—
Chicago	58	57	.504	2 1/2
Minnesota	55	59	.482	5
Cleveland	49	65	.430	11
Kansas City	45	69	.395	15

West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Los Angeles	68	44	.607	—
Texas	64	49	.566	4 1/2
Seattle	60	55	.522	9 1/2
Oakland	51	63	.447	18

Wednesday's games

N.Y. Yankees 4, Toronto 3, 11 innnings
Oakland 6, Baltimore 3
L.A. Angels 10, Tampa Bay 5
Texas 5, Cleveland 0
Boston 8, Detroit 2
Minnesota 7, Kansas City 1
Seattle 1, Chicago White Sox 0, 14 innnings

Thursday's games

Texas 4, Cleveland 1
Kansas City 5, Minnesota 4
Detroit 2, Boston 0
N.Y. Yankees 11, Seattle 1

Friday's games

Kansas City at Detroit
L.A. Angels at Baltimore
Toronto at Tampa Bay
Boston at Texas
Cleveland at Minnesota
Chicago White Sox at Oakland
N.Y. Yankees at Seattle

Saturday's games

Chicago White Sox (G.Floyd 9-7) at Oakland (G.Gonzalez 4-2)
Cleveland (D.Huff 6-6) at Minnesota (Swarzak 3-5)

Kansas City (Hochevar 6-5) at Detroit (E.Jackson 8-5)
L.A. Angels (Lackey 7-5) at Baltimore (Mutkus 1-1)

Toronto (Tallet 5-6) at Tampa Bay (Kazmir 6-7)
Boston (Penny 7-6) at Texas (Holland 5-7)

N.Y. Yankees (Mitre 1-1) at Seattle (French 2-2)

Sunday's games

Kansas City at Detroit
L.A. Angels at Baltimore
Toronto at Tampa Bay
Boston at Texas
Cleveland at Minnesota
Chicago White Sox at Oakland
N.Y. Yankees at Seattle

Thursday

Rangers 4, Indians 1

Texas
Cleveland

ab r h bi ab r h bi

Germann 2b 5 0 0 0 Sizemore cf 4 0 2 0

Myong 2b 5 1 2 0 J.Carrillo 3b 3 1 2 0

Byrd cf 5 0 2 0 A.Carrera ss 3 0 1 0

Anjons dh 3 1 1 0 Choo rf 3 0 0 1

Hamlin rf 4 1 4 2 J.Herlt dh 4 0 0 0

Blalock 1b 4 0 2 0 Valen 2b 4 0 2 0

DvMrp cf 3 0 0 1 Shippch cf 2 0 1 0

Tegrad c 4 0 0 0 Crowe lf 4 0 0 0

Andrus ss 4 1 1 1 Gimenez bf 4 0 0 0

Totals 37 412 4 Totals 31 18 1

002 101 000-4 100 000 000-1

DP—Texas 1. LOB—Texas 8, Cleveland 8, 2B—An.Jones (16), Hamilton 2 (13), Valencia (18). HR—Andrus (5). SB—Byrd (6). CS—Byrd (2), Sizemore (8). S.A.Cabrera. SF—Dav.Murphy, Choo.

IP H R ER BB SO

Feldman W.12-4 6 7 1 1 2 6

N.Feliz H.3 2 0 0 0 0 5

F.Cabrera S.16-18 1 1 0 0 0 1

Cleveland

ab r h bi ab r h bi

Germann 2b 5 0 0 0 Sizemore cf 4 0 2 0

Myong 2b 5 1 2 0 J.Carrillo 3b 3 1 2 0

Byrd cf 5 0 2 0 A.Carrera ss 3 0 1 0

Anjons dh 3 1 1 0 Choo rf 3 0 0 1

Hamlin rf 4 1 4 2 J.Herlt dh 4 0 0 0

Blalock 1b 4 0 2 0 Valen 2b 4 0 2 0

DvMrp cf 3 0 0 1 Shippch cf 2 0 1 0

Tegrad c 4 0 0 0 Crowe lf 4 0 0 0

Andrus ss 4 1 1 1 Gimenez bf 4 0 0 0

Totals 37 412 4 Totals 31 18 1

002 101 000-4 100 000 000-1

DP—Texas 1. LOB—Texas 8, Cleveland 8, 2B—An.Jones (16), Hamilton 2 (13), Valencia (18). HR—Andrus (5). SB—Byrd (6). CS—Byrd (2), Sizemore (8). S.A.Cabrera. SF—Dav.Murphy, Choo.

IP H R ER BB SO

Feldman W.12-4 6 7 1 1 2 6

N.Feliz H.3 2 0 0 0 0 5

F.Cabrera S.16-18 1 1 0 0 0 1

Kansas City

ab r h bi ab r h bi

DeJesus ff 4 1 1 0 Span cf 3 2 1 0

Blmstg ff 4 1 1 2 0 O.Carter ss 5 1 1 0

Bullerb 1b 4 0 2 1 Mauer dh 4 1 2 4

J.Andrs pr-rf 0 0 0 0 Morena lb 4 0 0 0

Jacobss dh 4 0 0 1 Kubel bf 4 0 0 2

Callaspr 2b 3 0 1 0 Cuddyer rf 4 0 0 0

Teahen rr-1b 4 0 0 0 Crede bf 3 0 0 0

J.Buck 4 0 0 0 Rdmln cf 3 0 0 0

AGordon 3b 3 2 1 1 Punto 2b 3 0 1 0

YBTncr ss 4 1 2 0 BHarris ph 0 0 0 0

ACasill pr-bf 2b 0 0 0 0

Totals 34 5 8 5 Totals 33 47 4

103 100 000-5 100 030 000-4

DP—Kansas City 1. LOB—Kansas City 5, Minnesota 9. 2B—Butler (37), Mauer (20), Punto (7). 3B—DeJesus (8), Y.Betancourt (5). HR—A.Gordon (3), Mauer (21). SB—DeJesus (4).

IP H R ER BB SO

Feldman W.12-4 6 7 1 1 2 6

N.Feliz H.3 2 0 0 0 0 5

F.Cabrera S.16-18 1 1 0 0 0 1

Kansas City

ab r h bi ab r h bi

Meche W.5-9 5 7 4 4 2 2

Tieda 0 0 0 0 0 0

J.Wright H.8 1 0 0 0 0 2 1

Bale H.10 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 2

Soria S.19-21 2 0 0 0 0 1 2

Minnesota

ab r h bi ab r h bi

Pavano L.10-9 7 5 5 5 3 6

Mijares 1 2 0 0 0 0 0 1

Crain 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 3

Tieda pitched to 2 batters in the 6th. J.Wright pitched to 1 batter in the 7th. T-3:04. A-32,373 (46,632).



ELAINE THOMPSON/AP

CC Sabathia struck out 10 in the New York Yankees' 11-1 victory over the Seattle Mariners on Thursday night in Seattle.

Tigers 2, Red Sox 0

Detroit Boston

ab r h bi ab r h bi

Grndns cf 2 0 0 0 Ellsufy cf 4 0 1 0

Polanc 2b 4 0 0 0 Redckr rf 4 0 1 0

Thoms ff-p 4 0 0 0 VMrtzn dh 4 0 2 0

McGarr 1b 4 1 1 0 Bay lf 3 0 0 0

CGuill dh 3 0 0 0 D.Ortiz dh 4 0 0 0

Ordonz rf 2 0 1 0 Lowell 3b 4 0 0 0

Inge 3b 1 0 0 0 Ktchm 1b 4 0 0 0

Rebarn 3b-ff 1 0 0 0 N.Greens 3 0 0 0

Laird c 4 0 0 0 Wdwrd 2b 1 0 0 0

Everett ss 4 0 1 0

Totals 32 2 5 2 Totals 31 0 4 0

000 100 100-2 000 000-0

DP—Reddick (1). LOB—Detroit 7, Boston 7. 2B—Ellsufy (19), Reddick (4). HR—Rebarn (7). SB—V.Martinez (1).

IP H R ER BB SO

Verlander W.13-6 8 4 0 0 1 8

D.Holland 2A-25 1 0 0 0 0 0

Boston

ab r h bi ab r h bi

Buchholz L.1-3 7 5 2 1 3 3

Delcarmen 1 0 0 0 F.Gfrzz cf 4 0 0 0

Hinske ph-rf 1 0 0 0 LoJopz 2b 4 0 0 0

Teixeira 1b 4 2 2 1 MSwny dh 3 0 0 0

HMatsu dh 5 4 4 5 Branyan 1b 3 0 0 0

Swisher rf-1f 3 1 0 0 Johjim c 3 0 0 0

Cano 2b 5 0 2 0 Hannhn 2b 3 0 1 0

McCarr cf 4 0 0 1 JoWilson ss 3 1 1 1

Hrstn Jrb 3b 5 0 2 2 MSndrs lf 3 0 0 0

J.Molin 1c 5 0 1 0

Totals 42 11 15 10 Totals 29 1 3 1 3 1

002 100 000-4 000 100 000-1

DP—New York 1. LOB—New York 8, Seattle 3. 2B—Damon 2 (28), Teixeira (32), Hairston Jr. (1). HR—Jeter (14), H.Matsu 2 (19), Jo.Wilson (1).

IP H R ER BB SO

Sabathia W.13-7 8 3 1 1 2 10

Brune 1 0 0 0 Wethrs p 3 0 0 0

Seattle

ab r h bi ab r h bi

Snell L.0-1 6 9 8 8 3 4

Olson 3 3 6 3 3 1 2 1

Snell pitched to 2 batters in the 7th. WP—Snell. T-2:42. A-33,585 (47,878).

N.Y. Mets 6, Arizona 4

San Francisco 4, L.A. Dodgers 2, 10 innnings

West Division

ab r h bi ab r h bi

Philadelphia 64 48 521 —

Florida 61 54 530 4 1/2

Atlanta 60 54 526 12

New York 53 61 465 12

Washington 40 75 348 25 1/2

Central Division

ab r h bi ab r h bi

St. Louis 64 52 552 —

Chicago 59 55 518 4

Milwaukee 56 58 491 7

Houston 56 59 487 7 1/2

Cincinnati 50 64 439 13

Pittsburgh 46 69 .400 17 1/2

West Division

ab r h bi ab r h bi

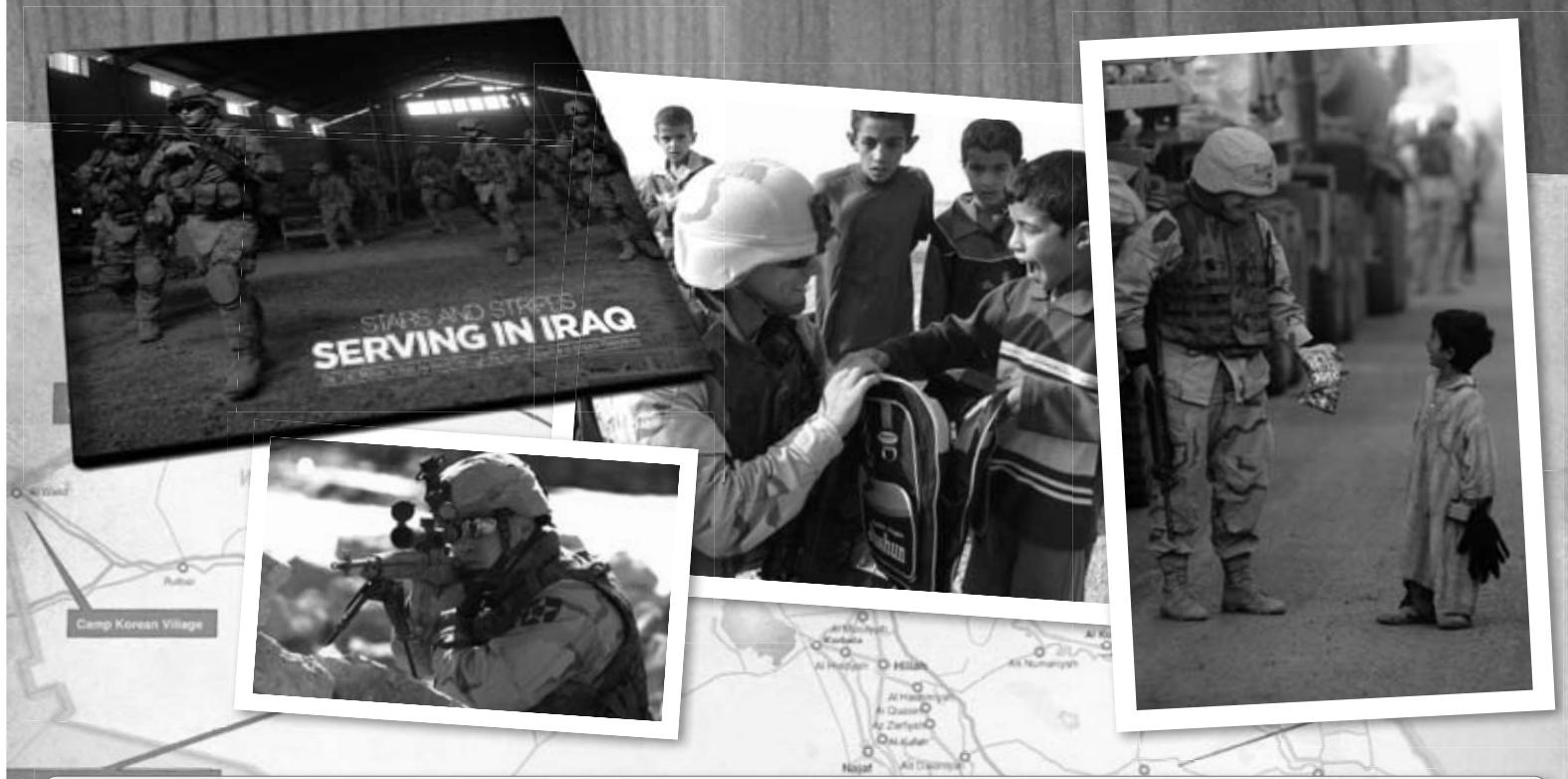
Los Angeles 69 46 600 —

Colorado 64 51

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Lee drives in 7; Cubs maul Bucs

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Derrek Lee capped Chicago's 10-run, second-inning outburst with a three-run double and finished with seven RBIs as the Cubs snapped a five-game losing streak with a 17-2 romp over the Pittsburgh Pirates on Friday.

The Cubs led 14-0 after two innings. The last time they scored so many runs so quickly was June 7, 1906 — 10 years before they moved into Wrigley Field.

In addition to the three-run double in the second, Lee had a two-run double, a run-scoring single and a bases-loaded walk, all in four innings before being removed with the score 17-2. His RBI output matched a career high established July 2 against Milwaukee.

The Cubs sent 15 batters to the plate and every starter scored at least once in Chicago's first double-digit inning since 2004. Winning pitcher Randy Wells scored twice, and Lee's double finished the inning.

The Cubs' loud bats had to compete for the fans' attention

with the earsplitting sound of the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds flying overhead in preparation for Saturday's Chicago Air & Water Show.

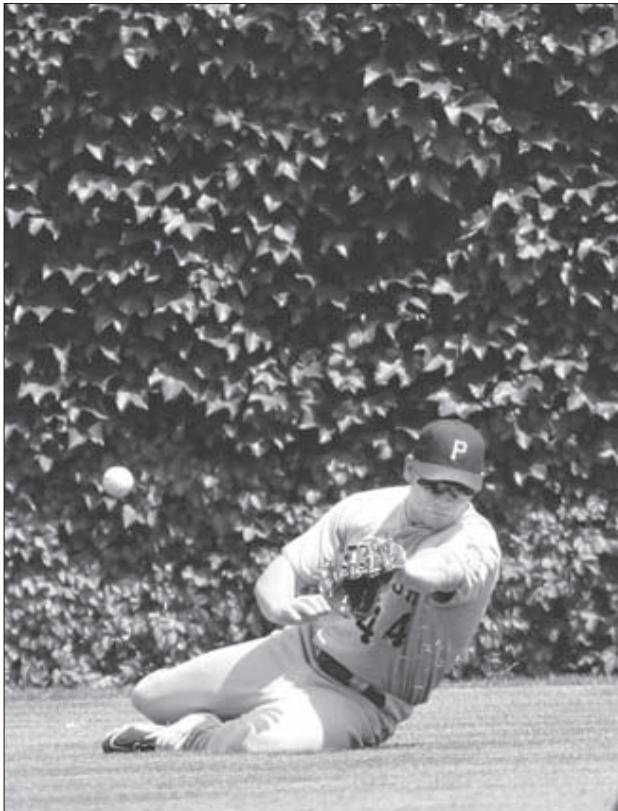
The Pirates have lost three in a row and 11 of 12. Charlie Morton (2-6) gave up 10 runs in one-plus inning before getting relieved by Chris Bootcheck, who allowed seven runs in $2\frac{1}{3}$ innings.

After averaging a mere 3.4 runs a game in losing seven of eight, the Cubs scored four in a first inning highlighted by Kosuke Fukudome's three-run homer.

Even though Milton Bradley (sore hip) and Aramis Ramirez (cold) were late scratches, the Cubs had their highest-scoring game since beating Milwaukee 19-5 on April 30, 2008.

Wells (9-5) did more than hold the Pirates to two runs in six innings. The rookie also walked and had an RBI single in the big inning and later added a double.

The game began a stretch in which the Cubs will play 28 of 33 games against teams with losing records. They are 40-22 against such teams, 19-33 against teams playing better than .500 ball.



CHARLES REX ARBOGAST/AP

Pittsburgh Pirates center fielder Andrew McCutchen is unable to catch a liner off the bat of Chicago's Sam Fuld during the first inning of Friday's game at Wrigley Field. Fuld ended up with a triple on the play and scored the game's first run as the Cubs waltzed 17-2.



DAVID KOHL/AP

Cincinnati's Jonny Gomes waves to the crowd during a curtain call after hitting his third home run of the game in the sixth inning Thursday night against Washington. The Reds beat the Nationals 7-0.

Three homers cap Gomes' struggle to get back to majors

The Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Jonny Gomes had hit three home runs in a game once before. This time meant more to him.

Gomes homered in his first three at-bats to back Bronson Arroyo's two-hitter and the Cincinnati Reds beat the Washington Nationals 7-0 on Thursday night.

The three-homer game was Gomes' first since July 30, 2005, against Kansas City.

"This one's a lot more emotional for me," said Gomes, who opened the season with Triple-A Louisville after signing a minor-league contract with Cincinnati in January. He joined the Reds on May 22. "I was in Triple-A to start this thing off, and now — not too many at-bats later — I have three home runs."

Gomes hit two-run homers in the second and fourth innings and added a solo shot in the sixth to help the Reds build a 7-0 lead.

He is the sixth player to hit three homers in a game this season. Pittsburgh's Andrew McCutchen was the last on Aug. 1.

Gomes is the 24th player in franchise history to hit three home runs in a game. Ryan Hanigan added a solo shot to give Arroyo plenty of breathing room.

Gomes' outburst reminded manager Dusty Baker of the exploits of such storied slug-

gers as Barry Bonds and Dave Kingman.

"That was one the best performances I've seen in a long time," Baker said. "We needed those runs and the victory, and that was an outstanding performance by Bronson, too. It was like he didn't break a sweat."

Arroyo (11-11) was 0-3 in his previous four starts and hadn't won since beating Milwaukee 4-0 on July 17. He allowed just one runner as far as second base. He walked one, hit a batter and struck out three.

"That's what a big-game pitcher does — he saves the bullpen," Baker said. "We were kind of running on fumes after getting in really late (from St. Louis)."

Layne Nix ended the game with a leaping catch of Ryan Zimmerman's line drive at the left field wall, one of three impressive defensive plays turned in by the left fielder.

"Early on, they hit a couple of balls hard, and Laynce made some great plays," Arroyo said. "I got a lot of groundballs right at people on my changeup and sinker. The ball rolled my way today, and those three runs we got early on were huge. Lately, it seems like I've had fight and scratch to keep the score close early."

Collin Balester (1-2) allowed three home runs and five runs for the second straight start.

Marlins enjoy big night vs. Houston

BY ANTONIO GONZALEZ

The Associated Press

MIAMI — The Florida Marlins are slugging their way into the playoff race.

Jorge Cantu and Ronny Paulino homered as the Marlins continued their potent pace at the plate in a 9-2 victory over the Houston Astros on Thursday night.

Sean West (4-4) allowed one run and five hits in six innings, and relievers Brian Sanches and Chris Leroux combined to give the Marlins their sixth victory in seven games.

Florida remained 4½ games behind first-place Philadelphia in the NL East, and three behind Colorado in the wild-card race, with the Rockies coming to Miami for a three-game weekend series.

"We're within a few games of Philly, and every game is important come this point in the season," West said. "I was talking to our starters; we've got a great group of guys. I think we can carry the team all the way. And our hitting is bar none."

It has been lately.

NL batting leader Hanley Ramirez had two singles and two RBIs for Florida, which has at least 10 hits in a club-record 10 straight games.

"Let's keep that going, because all of a sudden we'll be talking about we haven't got a hit in a week," Marlins manager Fredi Gonzalez said. "When the good things are going, you try to extend them."

Houston's Mike Hampton (7-10) gave up three runs and six hits through five innings before being forced to leave the game because of a left shoulder strain.

Hampton had an RBI single in the fifth and appeared to get hurt running the bases. He was replaced by Chris Sampson in the sixth inning, but Hampton said he does not expect to miss his next start. Hampton left his previous start after only two innings with a sprained meniscus in his right knee.

After Ramirez reached on a fielder's choice in the first, Cantu worked the count full and homered on the 11th pitch of the at-bat to give the Marlins a 2-0 lead. Cantu's ball was hit so hard that left fielder Carlos Lee didn't even turn around to watch it sail over the scoreboard.

The same was true in the fifth, when Paulino hit his sixth homer to deep left-center to put Florida ahead 3-1.

Ramirez's run-scoring single and Wes Helms' RBI double highlighted a six-run sixth inning outburst that gave the Marlins a 9-1 lead. Six Florida hitters drove in runs during the inning, with all the runs charged to Sampson.

Major League Baseball statistics

Through Aug. 13

American League

	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	Avg
Dye CWS	381	65	102	24	67	.268
DeJesus KC	418	48	111	8	54	.266
Andrus Tex	312	45	82	5	21	.263
Rios CWS	442	52	116	14	62	.262
Bay Bos	378	71	98	24	81	.259
ARodriguez NYN	300	52	77	21	63	.257
Granderson Det	445	69	114	23	54	.256
VWells Tor	447	61	114	12	47	.255
Branyan Sea	380	57	97	27	68	.255
AHuff Bal	418	49	106	13	70	.254
JDrew Bos	337	61	85	12	43	.252
Thome CWS	302	50	76	21	69	.252
Inge Det	384	58	96	22	64	.250
BFrancisco Cle	308	48	77	10	33	.250
Blalock Tex	365	52	91	23	56	.249
Kinsler Tex	396	71	96	23	63	.242
Swisher NYN	339	55	82	18	59	.242
Ziemore Cle	365	56	88	15	57	.241
BUpton TB	429	66	101	7	37	.235
Cust Oak	381	62	87	16	50	.228
DOrtiz Bos	386	44	84	15	62	.218
CPena TB	394	73	85	31	77	.216

INDIVIDUAL BATTING

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	Avg
Mauer Min	341	66	126	21	.370
ISuzuki Sea	472	66	169	7	.358
Bartlett TB	338	61	116	11	.353
McCabrera Det	422	66	138	23	.372
Rolen Tor	338	52	108	8	.320
Jeter NYN	461	78	147	14	.419
Cano NYN	462	77	147	18	.418
MYoung Tex	447	64	142	19	.318
Pierzynski CWS	356	43	111	12	.312
Youkilis Bos	351	70	109	20	.66
ACabrera Cle	361	60	112	5	.46
Ebayar LA	336	51	104	5	.43
Babre LA	395	67	122	9	.37
Callaspo KC	401	58	123	7	.44
Kubel Min	355	48	109	19	.63
JRivera Cle	355	47	109	18	.62
Markakis Bal	458	67	139	13	.78
Figgins LA	432	88	131	3	.39
KMorales LA	389	60	118	25	.76
Butler KC	424	51	127	13	.59
Lowell Bos	331	41	99	14	.59
Pedroia Bos	447	84	133	9	.59
Lind Tor	433	65	129	23	.79
Morneau Min	430	76	128	28	.91
Ellsbury Bos	441	63	131	6	.36
Span Min	390	65	116	6	.43
Scutaro Tor	449	80	133	10	.49
Podsednik CWS	365	51	108	4	.39
Choo Cle	410	65	120	13	.62
FGutiérrez Sea	376	54	110	14	.50
ADjones Bal	425	73	124	19	.65
AHill Tor	492	68	142	27	.78
Damon NYN	412	83	119	22	.67
Teixeira NYN	438	70	126	29	.58
Holiday Oak	346	52	99	11	.54
Zobrist TB	336	64	96	19	.60
OCabrera Min	463	49	132	5	.48
BRoberts Bal	445	81	127	9	.47
Kennedy Oak	348	42	99	10	.46
VMartinez Bos	427	61	121	17	.75
KSuzuki Oak	407	52	115	9	.53
Byrd Tex	389	46	112	6	.56
Konero CWS	404	51	121	21	.70
Teahen KC	400	54	111	9	.37
Longoria TB	405	65	112	24	.55
Polanco Det	427	54	117	7	.53
JoLopez Sea	424	47	116	15	.66
AllRamirez CWS	385	51	105	13	.52
McCabrera NYN	338	47	92	11	.46
Cuddyer Min	399	66	108	19	.57
RSweeneye CWS	340	49	92	5	.37
Ordonez Det	339	40	92	6	.37
NCruz Tex	342	56	92	25	.58
HMatsui NYN	316	41	85	19	.58
JhPeralti Cle	403	44	108	9	.60
Guthrie Bal	314	47	143	7	.62

	AB	R	H	ER	BB	SO	Sh	Sv
Seattle	4.00	966	459	414	75	7	35	
Texas	4.12	993	461	362	68	8	33	
Chicago	4.13	1008	467	383	80	7	26	
Baltimore	4.18	1013	475	378	82	7	17	
Tampa Bay	4.28	1008	480	363	772	3	29	
New York	4.29	989	494	410	884	6	37	
Oakland	4.46	1062	505	388	774	5	27	
Minnesota	4.69	1084	530	323	721	3	29	
Kansas City	4.73	1049	527	398	807	6	22	
Los Angeles	4.76	1055	528	374	748	7	34	
Baltimore	5.02	1129	561	376	656	2	24	
Cleveland	5.04	1093	568	411	693	5	19	

INDIVIDUAL PITCHING

IP	H	B	SO	W	LERA	
Greinke KC	159	150	33	167	11	7.243
FHernandez Sea	165	153	55	128	12	4.722
Halladay Tor	165	158	21	138	12	5.273
EJackson Det	152	127	49	120	8	5.279
Beckett Bos	157	132	42	145	4	4.310
Washburn Det	144	125	36	84	8	7.312
CLee Cle	152	165	33	107	7	9.134
Verlander Det	167	147	47	194	13	6.328
Millwood Tex	144	140	46	89	7	9.338
Bergesen Bal	123	126	32	65	7	5.343
Sabathia NYN	171	148	47	133	13	7.364
Lester Bos	147	140	46	165	9	7.367
Buehrle CWS	161	156	31	84	11	6.370
RRomero Tor	122	118	47	95	10	5.370
ABurnett NYN	146	130	73	130	10	5.371
JerWeaver LAA	150	140	37	132	13	7.373
JShields TB	159	170	40	111	7	8.379
Garza TB	147	123	59	130	7	8.380
Chamberlain NYN	122	116	59	107	8	2.835
Tulowitzki Col	382	71	106	23	62	2.777
Berkman Hou	304	53	84	18	57	2.766
Ether LAD	429	71	118	23	76	2.755
Fukudome ChC	342	54	94	9	40	2.755
Rowand SF	361	48	98	9	45	2.711
Fowler Col	350	55	94	5	30	2.711
AdGonzalez SD	395	67	106	30	70	2.688
Ludwick StL	333	46	89	18	73	2.676
Howard Phi	429	70	114	27	85	2.666
SDrew Ari	359	53	95	9	47	2.655
Kouzmanoff SD	424	40	112	14	65	2.644
BPhillips Cin	402	58	106	7	25	2.625
RMartin LAD	371	47	98	3	33	2.624
CHart Mil	360	56	95	11	40	2.624
Furcal LAD	434	64	114	6	33	2.623
Francesco NYM	415	44	109	10	55	2.623
Bradley ChC	289	43	76	8	30	2.623
Winn SF	416	53	109	2	42	2.623
Cross Fla	408	61	107	24	64	2.623

National League

TEAM BATTING

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	Avg
Los Angeles	4014	567	1109	94	.538
Houston	3912	480	1050	99	.466
Washington	3908	520	1043	109	.502
Atlanta	3895	511	1133	104	.487
Colorado	3836	500	1009	13	.552
San Francisco	3853	455	1004	115	.526
St. Louis	3880	516	1107	119	.526
Milwaukee	3839	482	993	128	.525
Philadelphia	3974	523	1016	127	.496
Pittsburgh	3848	465	982	87	.495
Chicago	3889	498	983	123	.474
San Diego	3891	450	936	105	.429
Cincinnati	3823	452	920	111	.424

INDIVIDUAL BATTING

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	Avg
HaRamirez Fla	414	72	146	17	.81
Sandoval SF	410	50	135	17	.68
Pujols StL	401	91	131	38	.70
DWright NYM	421	74	137	8	.55
Helton Col	399	60	129	11	.55
Tejada Hou	466	58	148	10	.68
CalLee Hou	434	51	137	19	.73
CGuzman Was	402	59	127	5	.40
Braun Mil	441	80	138	21	.63
Victorino Phi	440	79	137	9	.52
Kemp LAD	429	66	133	16	.75
Morgan Was	426	67	131	3	.36
Fielder Mil	413	71	127	20	.70
Hawpe Col	370	64	114	15	.68
Zimmerman Was	443	85	135	24	.70
Escobar Atl	364	55	111	11	.50
Flores Mil	431	53	130	6	.34
JUpton Ari	392	68	118	20	.66
Thioter ChC	438	61	131	7	.46
Utley Phi	401	81	120	23	.74
FHernandez Sea	394	51	118	7	.38
SCanchez SF	324	59	97	0	.28
LCastillo NYM	389	56			

NFL exhibition roundup

Brady's return overshadowed by Vick deal

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — As news of Michael Vick's deal with the Philadelphia Eagles spread, Tom Brady's comeback became an afterthought.

Brady's return might not have created much buzz Thursday night, but he proved the knee injury that cost him last season is behind him. He threw two touchdown passes in his first game since tearing ligaments in his left knee in Week 1 last year, leading the New England Patriots to a 27-25 victory over the Eagles in the preseason opener.

"Preseason game doesn't have quite the feel of a regular-season game, but to be out there on the field with my teammates and celebrate after a win, and the bus ride home ... those are the things you probably enjoy the most," Brady said.

Vick stole the headlines with news that the former Falcons quarterback signed a

one-year deal with an option for a second year with the Eagles.

Brady, who used a protective brace, moved well in the pocket and showed no lingering effects of his surgically repaired left knee. He threw two touchdown passes to tight end Chris Baker, one in the first quarter and another in the second.

Brady completed 10 of 15 passes for 100 yards with one interception.

All he missed out on was absorbing the big hit.

"I was just going to hold the ball in the pocket, just kind of cuddle up with the ball," Brady said. "I was saying, 'Gosh, I wish somebody would just come up and blast me.'"

The 2007 NFL MVP came out firing on New England's second possession. He connected with Randy Moss over the middle for 13 yards, then threw a perfect deep ball to Moss down the right sideline. Former

Patriots cornerback Asante Samuel was called for pass interference on the play, resulting in a 46-yard gain to the Eagles 18.

Four plays later, Brady found Baker open for a 4-yard TD strike.

"I thought he was sharp. He went out there and moved us up and down the field and put some points on the board," Baker said.

Steelers 20, Cardinals 10: At Pittsburgh, Isaac Redman, an undrafted rookie from Bowie State playing long after the starters for both Super Bowl teams left the field, scored twice in the fourth quarter for the defending champion Steelers.

Neither team scored a touchdown until rookie Joe Burnett intercepted a pass by third-teamer Brian St. Pierre, a former Steelers backup, and returned it to the Arizona 3 to end the third quarter. Redman scored on the next play, and scored on a 5-yard run about 7 minutes later to end

an 80-yard drive led by No. 3 quarterback Dennis Dixon.

Raiders 31, Cowboys 10: At Oakland, Calif., Bruce Gradkowski engineered three touchdown drives for the Raiders against mostly backups on Dallas' defense, throwing a 3-yard touchdown pass to Tony Stewart in the second quarter.

Cowboys star Tony Romo threw an 8-yard touchdown pass to Jason Witten to cap a brief but successful night.

Ravens 23, Redskins 0: At Baltimore, Joe Flacco led the Ravens to field goals on his only two series, and Troy Smith threw a touchdown pass against punchless Washington.

Flacco completed nine of 15 passes for 103 yards, and Smith completed 14 of 30 attempts for 200 yards, including a beat-the-clock 19-yard score to Justin Harper with 5 seconds left in the first half.

Local scoreboard

Marine Corps Far East Regional Men's Softball Tournament

At Camp Foster, Okinawa
Double-elimination playoffs

Thursday's games

Game 1 3rd Marine Logistics Group, Okinawa, 8, Marine Corps Base Camp S.D. Butler, Okinawa, 3

Game 2 3rd Marine Division/III Marine Expeditionary Force, Okinawa, 18, U.S. Naval Hospital Camp Lester, Okinawa, 6 (5)

Game 3 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Okinawa, 13, 3rd MLG 1 (5)

Game 4 Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, 7, Division 3

Game 5 3rd MLG 14, Hospital 13; Hospital eliminated

Game 6 Division 8, Base 6; Base eliminated

Friday's games

Game 7 1st Wing 12, Iwakuni 5

Game 8 Division 9, 3rd MLG 4; 3rd

MLG eliminated

Game 9 Iwakuni 8, Division 6; Division eliminated

Game 10 1st Wing 5, Iwakuni 3; Iwakuni eliminated

Awards

Most Valuable Player — Joshua O'Brien, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing

All-Tournament coach — Michael Wilder, Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni

All-Marine tryout camp selections — Tim Vannoy (six-time All-Marine, two-time All-Armed Forces), Richie Krause (three-time All-Marine), Robert Willard (second selection), Chris Wine (first selection), Joshua O'Brien (first selection), 1st Marine Aircraft Wing; Roland Wallace (first selection), 3rd Marine Logistics Group; Aaron Marsh (first selection), Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni.

All-Tournament team — Joshua O'Brien, Richie Krause, Tim Dawsey, Robert Willard, Tim Vannoy, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing; Aaron Marsh, Justin Rodriguez, Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni; Roland Wallace, 3rd Marine Logistics Group; James Canelos, Marine Corps Base Camp S.D. Butler; Tyrell Hicks, 3rd Marine Division/III Marine Expeditionary Force; Anthony Gourley, U.S. Naval Hospital Camp Lester.

Friday's summaries

Wing 12, Iwakuni 5

101 003 0-5 14 4

Wing 210 063 19 2

Batting-Wing, Barry Brown, Tim Dawsey 2-for-4, 2 RBI each; Meaty Hinkhouse 2 RBI; Tim Vannoy, Chris Wine, Doc Arbini 3-for-4 each. Iwakuni, Ken Kohler 1-for-3, SF, 2 RBI; Stephen DeBruyn 2-for-4, 2 RBI; Don Baker 3-for-4.

Division 9, 3rd MLG 4

011 020 0-4 10 5

Division 600 300 X-9 11 2

Batting-Division, Tyrell Hicks 3-for-3,

2B; James Love 2-for-3, 2 RBI; Jonathan Gibbs 2B, 2 RBI, 3rd MLG; Eric Pugh 2-for-2, RBI; Scott Comment 2-for-3, 3B, RBI; Roland Wallace 1-for-3, 2B, 2B, RBI.

Iwakuni 8, Division 6

411 000 0-6 11 4

Division 031 400 X-8 10 5

Batting-Iwakuni, Justin Rodriguez 2-for-3, 2 RBI; Ken Kohler, Ken Gilkey, Keith Applegate SF RBI each; Jonathan Paz RBI. Division, Brendan Griffin 2-for-3, 2 RBI; Jonathan Gibbs 2 RBI; Zach Guidry 3-for-4.

Wing 5, Iwakuni 3

100 001 1-3 9 2

Wing 003 020 X-5 11 1

Batting-Wing, Robert Willard 3-RBI in-

park HR; Chris Wine 2-for-3, RBI; Joshua O'Brien SF, RBI. Iwakuni, Jeremy Press, Justin Rodriguez 2-for-3, RBI each; Aaron

Marsh RBI.

Marine Corps Far East Regional tourney

Vannoy helps Wing defend softball title

By DAVE ORNAUER

Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — He's been named All-Marine six times and All-Armed Forces twice. But not until Friday had Tim Vannoy ever put a Marine Corps Regional Softball Tournament gold medal around his neck.

Vannoy batted 2-for-3 and pitched the last three outs in relief of Richie Krause as Vannoy's 1st Marine Aircraft Wing repeated its Far East Regional championship, edging Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni 5-3 at Gunner's Fitness Center Softball Complex Field 1.

"It's outstanding. There's no better feeling," said Vannoy, 36, a master sergeant with 15 years of service. He won five silver medals in regionals on Okinawa and the East and West coasts, but never gold.

It was also the first gold medal as a coach for Krause, a three-time All-Marine. He said he imparted three keys to victory to his players prior to the tournament.

"Stay within yourself. Make the routine plays. Have fun," he said. "I guaranteed them if they did, they'd be sitting here with the gold."

For Bob Willard, Friday's victory meant a second straight gold for himself as well as the team. And he played a big hand in it, lacing a liner between outfielders Ken Gilkey and James Albsmeyer for a three-run inside-the-park homer in the third which put Wing ahead to stay.

Iwakuni had gone ahead 1-0 on Jeremy Press' two-out RBI single. Following Willard's homer, Chris Wine singled in a run, and tournament MVP Joshua O'Brien hit a sacrifice fly to make it 5-1 in the fifth.

Then came what Iwakuni coach

Michael Wilder called the game's "turning point." With runners on first and second and one out in the sixth, Aaron Marsh singled in a run, but a relay throw from O'Brien to shortstop Tim Dawsey to catcher Meaty Hinkhouse nailed Albsmeyer at home.

Wilder argued with the umpires that Albsmeyer slid under the tag, but to no avail. "He was safe. That could have tied it for us," Wilder said of the aborted rally. "That was the backbreaker for us."

Iwakuni again threatened in the seventh, putting runners at first and third with one out, but pinch-hitter Keith Applegate was called out on strikes on a pitch he felt was "deep and outside." Justin Rodriguez then singled in a run, but that was as close as Iwakuni got.

Coaches and players called it a team effort. "Everyone contributed," Wine said.

O'Brien one of five Wing players going to tryout camp

O'Brien was also one of five Wing players named to the All-Marine tryout camp Aug. 28-Sept. 18 at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C.

The first-time camp selection is joined by Krause, Vannoy, two-time camp pick Willard and first-time selection Wine. Two other camp rookies are Iwakuni's Marsh and Rolando Wallace of 3rd Marine Logistics Group.

They'll vie for berths on the All-Marine team playing in the All-Armed Forces tournament Sept. 19-24 at Naval Air Station Pensacola, Fla. The All-Armed Forces team then heads to Oklahoma City for the Amateur Softball Association national championship Oct. 1-5.

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MATT ORR/Stars and Stripes

Doc Arbini of 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Okinawa, left, is tagged out wide of home plate by catcher Ken Kohler of Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, during Friday's winner's bracket final in the Far East Regional Softball Tournament at Camp Foster, Okinawa. Wing beat Iwakuni 12-5 and again 5-3 in the evening championship game.

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NFL briefs

Panthers' Smith makes surprise return

The Associated Press

SPARTANBURG, S.C. — Four days after kicking his helmet in disgust and climbing into a golf cart thinking his shoulder was broken, Carolina receiver Steve Smith was smiling and throwing spirals.

Fittingly, Smith's surprisingly quick return to practice Friday ended with a throw-and-catch session with inexperienced receiver Kenny Moore. They spent much of the offseason working out together with Smith's young son toting along, an experience that conflicted with the Carolina star's loner persona — and renewed his enthusiasm.

"It gave me those childhood memories of what I grew up with. I really liked how I felt, falling back in love with the game," Smith said. "So getting hurt, that's why I took it out on my helmet. Seven months of working hard, and then in seven seconds you're back in the same position ... but it's not broken."

X-rays were negative Monday night, and after a day in a sling, Smith had progressed to an exercise bike. It was still thought he'd miss most, if not all, of the exhibition season. So the sight of Smith running with his teammates in full pads Friday morning at training camp shocked onlookers. Saying he suffered just a "pretty good bone bruise," Smith participated in individual drills before sitting out the team workout and avoiding contact. "It doesn't hurt as much. Sleep is kind of difficult, but it's all right," said Smith, who wore a wrap under his shoulder pads. "I wouldn't say I woke up and said, 'OK, I'm healed.' But it's getting more tolerable."

Smith might sit out Monday's exhibition opener at the New York Giants, but his speedy return was welcome news for coach John Fox, who lost starting defensive tackle Maake Kemoeatu to a season-ending torn Achilles' tendon on the first day of camp.

"I think he'll make it," Fox said, smiling. "I think the early prognosis around the country was maybe not, but he'll be OK."

The Panthers can't afford to lose their top receiver, who had 78 catches for 1,421 yards and six touchdowns last season.

Giants' Manning completes \$97M deal

LBANY, N.Y. — New York Giants quarterback Eli Manning signed the six-year extension that will make him the NFL's highest-



MIKE GROLL/AP

Giants quarterback Eli Manning talks with Lt. Col. Greg Gadson during training camp Friday. Gadson lost his legs while serving in Iraq.

paid player with an average salary of roughly \$15.3 million.

The Giants announced the signing Friday morning after spending more than a week completing the deal that will keep Manning with the team through the 2015 season.

Manning is guaranteed \$35 million under terms of the \$97 million extension.

Giants general manager Jerry Reese said the team and Manning were glad to have the contract done. "Our total focus is on our performance on the field and being the best team we can be in 2009," Reese said.

Manning will make \$9.4 million this season under the final year of the contract he signed as a rookie in 2004 as the No. 1 overall pick in the draft.

Hill gets the nod at QB for 49ers

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — Shaun Hill is a big reason Mike Singletary became San Francisco's head coach and shed the interim tag from his title. Not that it matters much now.

Singletary was going with Hill as the 49ers' starting quarterback for their exhibition opener Friday night against the Denver Bron-

cos, yet insisted Thursday this is no hint who will be under center come the regular season.

"Shaun Hill will start the game. I do not know who will start next week," Singletary said. "Really, it could have been Shaun Hill or Alex Smith we chose, so don't read anything into it."

Hill, who worked with the No. 1 offense during the team's walk-through Thursday, went 5-3 over the Niners' final eight games last season and 2-0 as a fill-in starter in 2007. He has shown he can lead the team and, ultimately, win. That is a big factor for an organization that has endured a franchise-worst six successive losing seasons.

Sprained toe to sideline T.O. against Bears

PITTSFORD, N.Y. — Terrell Owens will miss the Buffalo Bills' exhibition game against the Chicago Bears this weekend because of a sprained toe that has prevented him from practicing all week.

Coach Dick Jauron ruled Owens out of Saturday's game after practice Thursday night, saying the toe is healing but the team doesn't want to take any chances with the receiver aggravating the injury.

Though Jauron didn't have a timetable for when Owens could resume practicing, Owens tweeted earlier in the day that he expects to return to the field Monday. He added that fans don't need to worry about his injury.

He's been out since jamming his toe in a 21-18 loss to Tennessee in the Hall of Fame last weekend. He had two catches for 27 yards in his Bills debut. He signed a one-year \$6.5 million deal with the team in March, shortly after being released by Dallas.

Seahawks' Curry set to make debut

RENTON, Wash. — Aaron Curry kept the Seattle Seahawks waiting for more than a week before showing up at training camp. But the team isn't going to delay the professional debut of the No. 4 overall pick in the draft.

On the day Seattle's most tenured star, Walter Jones, returned to practice for the first time since July 31, coach Jim Mora said Thursday that Curry will see extensive playing time in Saturday's exhibition opener against San Diego, perhaps the most of any prospective Seattle starter.

After first saying he wasn't going to make public how long some of his starters would play, Mora said that Curry likely will play into the third quarter and be shifted all over the defense. Curry will be used at linebacker, and line up at right end to give the Seahawks an opportunity to see his pass rush.

"You know, if there's one thing that I would look for is watch Aaron Curry and see how he rushes as an end. We're going to find out a little bit, you know? I'm excited to see it," Mora said. "There's no sense in waiting."

Culpepper to start opener for Lions

ALLEN PARK, Mich. — Daunte Culpepper will start at quarterback in the Detroit Lions' exhibition opener against the Atlanta Falcons on Saturday.

Lions coach Jim Schwartz said Friday that top draft pick Matthew Stafford will enter the game at some point in the second quarter.

Culpepper, 32, wants to start the season for the Lions, although he knows that Stafford is the team's future. Stafford, a former Georgia star, said he has learned a lot from his veteran teammate.

Detroit is coming off the NFL's first 0-16 season.

Also:

■ Lions general manager Mar-

tin Mayhew said he hopes to know soon what commissioner Roger Goodell decides to do about Grady Jackson's playing status. Mayhew said Goodell had indicated he would make a decision about Detroit's defensive tackle "well before" the season starts. Jackson was on a list of players last season accused of using a diuretic, which can serve as a masking agent for steroids. He was not suspended.

Packers, No. 1 pick Raji are close to deal

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Green Bay Packers coach Mike McCarthy said the team was close to signing first-round draft pick B.J. Raji on Thursday night, potentially ending a contract holdout that has lasted nearly two weeks.

The Packers took the former Boston College defensive tackle with the No. 9 overall pick, but he has been without a deal since the team reported to training camp July 31.

"I know we're close," McCarthy said after practice. "That's what I was told before I came to practice."

The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported on its Web site Thursday that the sides had reached an agreement in principle. It can't come soon enough for McCarthy.

"I'd love to see him," McCarthy said. "I hope, I hope, I hope."

At 6-1 and 337 pounds, Raji has a rare combination of size, power and quickness. He and fellow Packers first-rounder Clay Matthews III are expected to become cornerstones of the 3-4 defense being installed by new defensive coordinator Dom Capers.

Jury begins deliberations in Marshall case

ATLANTA — A six-member jury began deliberations Friday in the misdemeanor battery trial of Denver Broncos wide receiver Brandon Marshall.

Marshall is charged with two counts of simple battery stemming from a March 2008 argument with then-girlfriend Rasheedah Watley at the downtown Atlanta condominium the couple shared.

Defense attorney Harvey Steinberg characterized Watley as a liar with a violent temper who didn't want to give up the way of life to which she had become accustomed.

Prosecutor Jamie Mack said Marshall exerted control through force and financial dependence.

Marshall was suspended for last year's season opener after a series of domestic disputes.

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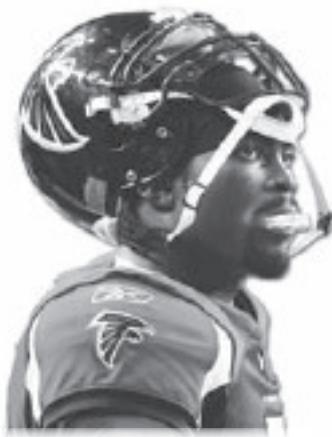
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Timeline of the Michael Vick dogfighting case

A look at the dogfighting case against Michael Vick:

Early 2001

Vick, Quanis Phillips and Tony Taylor decide to start an illegal dogfighting operation. Later that year, Purnell Peace joins the venture.

2002-07

Vick and his fellow defendants establish "Bad Newz Kennels," host dogfights and participate in fights in other states.

June 7, 2007

Federal investigators raid Vick's property.



July 26, 2007

Vick and his fellow defendants plead not guilty to the charges.

Aug. 17, 2007

Peace and Phillips plead guilty and implicate Vick in bankrolling gambling on dogfights. One says the quarterback helped drown or hang dogs that didn't do well.



Aug. 24, 2007

NFL commissioner Roger Goodell suspends Vick indefinitely without pay from the NFL.

Nov. 20, 2007

Vick surrenders to U.S. marshals and begins serving his sentence in a Virginia jail three weeks before his official sentencing.

Jan. 7, 2008

Vick leaves Virginia to enter a drug treatment program at a Leavenworth, Kan., minimum security facility.

Nov. 25, 2008

Vick appears in a Virginia courtroom to plead guilty to a state dogfighting charge and receives a three-year suspended sentence.

April 21, 2009

Goodell says Vick will have to show genuine remorse to get a chance at resuming his career in the NFL.



July 20, 2009

Vick is released from federal custody.

Aug. 13, 2009

Vick signs a one-year contract with an option for a second with the Philadelphia Eagles. He can take part in preseason practices, workouts, meetings and the final two exhibition games. Vick can apply for full reinstatement by Week 6 (Oct. 18-19).

June 29, 2002

Vick pays about \$34,000 for property in Surry County, Va.



April 25, 2007

Police raid Vick's Virginia property and find several neglected pit bulls and evidence of dogfighting.

July 17, 2007

Vick, Peace, Phillips and Taylor are charged by a federal grand jury in Richmond, Va., with conspiring to engage in competitive dogfighting, procuring and training pit bulls for fighting, and conducting the enterprise across state lines.

July 30, 2007

Taylor changes his plea to guilty and agrees to cooperate with the prosecution of Vick and the other two men.

Aug. 23, 2007

Vick signs plea agreement and statement of facts admitting to conspiracy in a dogfighting ring and helping kill pit bulls. He denies betting on the fights, only bankrolling them.

Aug. 27, 2007

Vick pleads guilty to dogfighting conspiracy before U.S. District Judge Henry Hudson. During a news conference, Vick apologizes for "using bad judgment and making bad decisions. I offer my deepest apologies to everyone. And I will redeem myself. I have to."



Dec. 10, 2007

Vick is sentenced to 23 months in federal prison.

July 8, 2008

Vick files for bankruptcy protection.

April 3, 2009

Vick testifies in federal bankruptcy court that he has become a changed man and will do all the right things upon his release from prison, including repaying his creditors by resuming his professional football career.

May 20, 2009

Vick is released from the Leavenworth, Kan., prison to begin two months of home confinement at his Hampton, Va., home.

July 27, 2009

Vick is conditionally reinstated by Goodell.



Vick: Team owner Lurie says 'no third chances'

VICK, FROM BACK PAGE

Vick knows he might never be forgiven by some people.

"I understand to a certain degree, but our country is a country of second chances," he said. "I paid my debt to society. I spent two years in prison. ... That was a humbling experience. I can't explain how deeply hurt and how sorry I was."

Eagles owner Jeffrey Lurie said he did serious "soul searching" regarding Vick. The owner said he met with Vick for hours and is convinced he can become a force in stopping animal cruelty.

"I needed to see a lot of self-hatred in order to approve this," Lurie said.

Lurie said that if Vick doesn't actively work with the community and with the humane society, his signing will be a "terrible decision."

"There's no third chances and we know that. If it isn't fulfilled the way we expect it to be, then it will be the end," Lurie said.

Commissioner Roger Goodell conditionally lifted Vick's suspension on July 27, allowing him to sign with a team, practice and play in the last two exhibition. Once the season begins, Vick can participate in all team activities except games, and Goodell said he would consider Vick for full reinstatement by Oct. 18-19 at the latest.

The Eagles reached the NFC championship game last season, but are still looking for their elusive first Super Bowl victory.

Vick thanked Reid and Eagles ownership for taking a gamble on him. He also personally thanked McNabb for lobbying the team on his behalf.

"I'm glad that coach Reid and the rest of the organization stepped forward," Vick said. "I'm glad I got the opportunity and the second chance. I won't disappoint."

Asked if some Eagles fans will be angry that the team signed Vick, Reid said, "Not everybody agrees with every decision. I expect the public to have some questions initially."

Reid said he hopes fans will trust that the team did its homework on Vick and signed him because the team believes the quarterback is a changed man who is ready to return to football.

Vick, who said he has no more pets, said he planned to work in the community and with the humane society to prove he can help more animals than he's hurt.

Vick will practice with the Eagles on Saturday.

"I'm ready to go," he said.

Reid called Vick "one of the greatest quarterbacks" in the league two years ago. With McNabb firmly entrenched as the starter, Vick will have to look at playing another position.

"There won't be a quarterback controversy," Reid said.

Reid consulted with McNabb before signing Vick, who went to three Pro Bowls in six seasons with the Falcons.

"I pretty much lobbied to get him here," McNabb said. "He's no threat to me, not for (backup Kevin) Kolb. We had the opportu-

nity to add another weapon to our offense."

McNabb has led the Eagles to five NFC title games and one Super Bowl appearance in the past eight years and was rewarded with a \$5.3 million raise in the offseason. The Eagles tore up his old contract with two years remaining, and gave him a new deal worth \$24.5 million over the next two seasons.

Philadelphia was among 26 clubs that said it was not interested in Vick, but that might have changed when Kolb strained a knee ligament this week. Kolb's injury isn't serious and he's expected to return next week. The Eagles also have veteran A.J. Feeley.

The most likely scenario would be for the Eagles to use Vick in a variation of the Wildcat offense that the Miami Dolphins made popular last season. Vick also is familiar with the West Coast offense, though he ran a different version with Atlanta than the one Philadelphia uses.

Reid did not specifically address how he would use Vick.

"I will say, though, that he will contribute," Reid said. "You can ask defensive coordinators on other teams if they're worried about that."

The deal was announced during Thursday night's exhibition opener against the New England Patriots. Suddenly, no one cared about Tom Brady's first game in 11 months.

When news of Vick's signing circulated in the press box, even the team's public relations staff seemed surprised.

The crowd quickly caught on at Lincoln Financial Field. Fans standing on the concourse were in disbelief. One guy wondered how quickly he'd be able to buy a Vick jersey. Another asked if this was a joke.

"It doesn't make any sense," said Michelle Harlan, a mother attending her first NFL game with a young son.

The animal rights group, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, wasted no time reminding people exactly what Vick had done.

"PETA and millions of decent football fans around the world are disappointed that the Eagles decided to sign a guy who hung dogs from trees. He electrocuted them with jumper cables and held them under water," PETA spokesman Dan Shannon told The Associated Press.

"You have to wonder what sort of message this sends to young fans who care about animals and don't want them to be harmed."

Since Reid became the head coach in 1999, the Eagles have avoided players with character issues. The lone exception came in 2004 when Philadelphia acquired wide receiver Terrell Owens. That move paid off when Owens helped lead the Eagles to the Super Bowl in his first season. But Owens quickly wore out his welcome, criticizing management over a contract dispute and feuding with McNabb. He was released midway through the 2005 season.

PGA Championship

Tiger accentuates the positive



Ireland's Padraig Harrington, above, watches his tee shot on the 10th hole during the opening round of the 91st PGA Championship on Thursday. The defending champion recorded a 4-under 68 and trailed Tiger Woods by one stroke. At right, fans do whatever is needed to get a glimpse of Woods on the 16th hole at Hazeltine National Golf Club in suburban Minneapolis.

PAUL SANCYA, ABOVE,
AND JIM GEHRZ/AP



Bogey-free 67 gives Woods 1-shot lead over Harrington

By DOUG FERGUSON
The Associated Press

CHASKA, Minn. — Tiger Woods smiled and gave a thumbs-up sign, although it wasn't for anything he did in the PGA Championship.

Standing on the green of the 606-yard 11th hole at Hazeltine, he was shocked to see that a player in the group behind him — Alvaro Quiros — had hit his second shot into the wind and onto the green. "That's just stupid long, isn't it?" Woods said. "I used to be able to move the ball — not anymore. I just plod around, shoot 67."

That formula worked to near perfection Thursday, when Woods opened with a 5-under 67 to build a one-shot lead over defending champion Padraig Harrington. It was an ideal start in his final chance to win a major this year.

"It was a very positive start," Woods said. "When I'm playing well, I usually don't make that many mistakes."

Woods didn't do anything sensational. He picked his targets and usually hit them. Only two of his birdie putts were inside 12 feet, on par 5s that he was able to reach in two. He made no bogeys, only the third time he has done that in the first round of a major.

Mostly, he had no complaints.

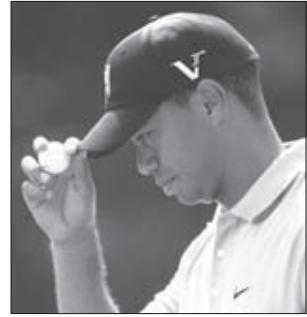
Not since the British Open at Carnoustie two years ago has Woods managed to break 70 in the opening round of a major. Not since St. Andrews four years ago has he had the lead to himself after the first round. More telling was a scorecard without a blemish. It was the only the third time that Woods opened a major with a bogey-free round. The others were in the 2000 U.S. Open and the 2000 British Open, tournaments he won by a combined 23 shots.

Harrington, who lost a three-shot lead to Woods last week in the Firestone Invitational, stayed with Woods through the steamy, breezy morning in suburban Minneapolis until a bunker shot on the par-5 seventh was too strong and he made par as Woods picked up a birdie.

"There's a factor that Tiger is 5-under par and looks like he's playing well, and looks like he could move away," Harrington said. "And the key will be, obviously, if he's moving away to make sure I'm moving with him."

Phil Mickelson struggled off the tee and with short putts in a round of 74. In the traditional group of major champions, U.S. Open winner Lucas Glover was the only one to break par with a 71. Masters champion Angel Cabrera had a 76, and British Open winner Stewart Cink had two double bogeys in a round of 73.

Woods and Harrington, the



CHARLIE RIEDEL/AP

Tiger Woods tips his cap to the gallery after a birdie on the second hole during the PGA Championship on Thursday.

winners of the past three PGAs, played in the morning when the greens were relatively smooth and the wind had just begun to swirl through the tree-lined fairways. Equally impressive were former PGA champions Vijay Singh and David Toms, who shot 69s in the afternoon, and should get better conditions in the second round. Singh hit his best shot around the trees and into the sun, not seeing that it spun back an inch or two from the hole at No. 16.

Quiros and Robert Allenby also shot 69 in the morning.

Woods missed only two fairways — he hit driver on six holes — and three greens. He came close to making bogey only twice, on the 18th and first holes, and saved par with 6-foot putts.

He looked nothing like the guy who was slamming clubs and looking for a lost ball in the British Open at Turnberry last month, when he missed the cut in a major for only the second time in his career. Woods had a chance to expand his lead with birdie putts of 12 and 15 feet on the last two holes, but they burned the lip.

"Something I've always believed in is just keep yourself around," Woods said. "You don't have to be eight ahead after the first round. Just got to keep plodding along. Major championships are set up so they're difficult. They beat you into making mistakes. And the whole idea is not to make many mistakes."

A few tees were moved forward to account for the wind. Even so, Hazeltine played 7,660 yards from the tee to the hole, and Woods made some of his best birdies with long clubs. He opened his scoring with a 3-iron to 20 feet at No. 12, and picked up three birdies on the par 5s, including a 3-wood to a back bunker of the 651-yard 15th, with a breeze at his back. He took the outright lead on the par-5 seventh with a 349-yard tee shot, followed by a 6-iron to 30 feet.

"He's human," Allenby said. "And the golf course is in front of all of us. And, obviously, he's the best in the world, so we expect him to win, because he's the best. He should. But you know what? It's three more days to go. And a lot can happen."

First round

Thursday
At Hazeltine National Golf Club
Chaska, Minn.

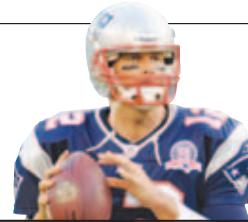
Purse: \$7.5 million

Yardage: 7,674; Par 72 (36-36)

Tiger Woods	33-34-67 -5
Padraig Harrington	34-34-68 -4
Robert Allenby	33-36-69 -3
Mathew Goggin	34-35-69 -3
Hunter Mahan	34-35-69 -3
Alvaro Quiros	36-33-69 -3
Vijay Singh	34-35-69 -3
David Toms	34-35-69 -3
Paul Goydos	34-35-69 -2
Thongchai Jaidee	38-32-70 -2
Graeme McDowell	35-35-70 -2
Lee Westwood	34-36-70 -2
Michael Bradley	32-34-70 -2
Gonzalo Fernandez-Castano	35-35-70 -2
Soren Kjeldsen	36-34-70 -2
Ben Crump	39-34-70 -2
Hiroyuki Fujita	39-34-71 -1
Bo Van Pelt	36-35-71 -1
Rory McIlroy	37-34-71 -1
Sergio Garcia	36-35-71 -1
Rich Beem	37-34-71 -1
Anders Hansen	34-37-71 -1
Geoff Ogilvy	36-35-71 -1
Brendan Jones	34-37-71 -1
Lucas Glover	36-35-71 -1
Luke Donald	37-34-71 -1
D.J. Trahan	34-38-72 E
Keith Diccianni	37-35-72 E
Charlie Wi	37-35-72 E
Carl Pettersson	36-36-72 E
Scott Hebert	35-37-72 E
Nathan Green	35-37-72 E
Dustin Johnson	33-39-72 E
Tom Lehman	37-35-72 E
Michael Miles	35-37-72 E
Soren Hansen	33-39-72 E
Louis Oosthuizen	36-36-72 E
John Merrick	34-38-72 E
Bob Twy	35-37-72 E
Ian Poulter	36-36-72 E
Thomas Levet	37-35-72 E
J.J. Henry	35-37-72 E
Jeff Overton	35-37-72 E
Ross Fisher	36-37-73 +1
John Mallinger	33-40-73 +1
Jim Furyk	36-37-73 +1
Martin Kaymer	37-36-73 +1
Henrik Stenson	37-36-73 +1
Richard Sterne	36-37-73 +1
Justin Rose	35-38-73 +1
Camilo Villegas	38-35-73 +1
Michael Sim	36-37-73 +1
Grant Sturgeon	37-36-73 +1
Woody Austin	35-38-73 +1
John Rollins	37-36-73 +1
Ken Duke	38-35-73 +1
Anthony Kim	37-36-73 +1
Kevin Sutherland	36-37-73 +1
John Senden	39-34-73 +1
Kevin Na	34-39-73 +1
Stewart Cink	39-34-73 +1
Marc Turnesa	36-37-73 +1
John Weihart	38-35-73 +1
Alastair Forsyth	38-35-73 +1
Justin Leonard	38-35-73 +1
Corey Pavin	37-36-73 +1
Ben Curtis	35-38-73 +1
K.J. Choi	36-37-73 +1
Y.E. Yang	36-37-73 +1
Pat Perez	39-35-74 +2
Rod Pampling	38-38-74 +2
Kenny Perry	39-38-74 +2
Stuart Appleby	36-38-74 +2
Chris Wood	36-38-74 +2
Rory Sabbatini	36-38-74 +2
Chad Campbell	40-34-74 +2
Peter Hanson	36-38-74 +2
Mark Brooks	36-38-74 +2
Fred Couples	38-36-74 +2
Sean O'Hair	35-39-74 +2
Mike Weir	36-38-74 +2
Boo Weekley	36-38-74 +2
Zach Johnson	37-37-74 +2
Francesco Molinari	38-36-74 +2
Oliver Wilson	38-36-74 +2
Ryo Ishikawa	37-37-74 +2
Michael Allen	37-37-74 +2
Bubba Watson	37-37-74 +2
Steve Stricker	37-37-74 +2
Stephen Ames	37-37-74 +2
Paul Azinger	36-38-74 +2
Phil Mickelson	37-37-74 +2
Jeev Milkha Singh	35-39-74 +2
Bob Estes	33-41-74 +2
Steve Flesch	36-38-74 +2
Richard Green	36-39-75 +3
Shingo Katayama	38-37-75 +3
Craig Thomas	38-37-75 +3
Nick Watney	37-38-75 +3
David Smail	39-36-75 +3
Brandt Snedeker	37-38-75 +3
Todd Lancaster	38-37-75 +3
Greg Biscotti	37-38-75 +3
Miguel Angel Jimenez	37-38-75 +3
John Daly	37-38-75 +3
Colin Montgomerie	37-38-75 +3
Andres Romero	38-37-75 +3
Steve Elkington	35-40-75 +3
Ryan Palmer	38-37-75 +3
Ernie Els	40-35-75 +3
Scott McCarron	35-40-75 +3
Briny Baird	37-39-75 +3
Prayad Marksaeng	39-37-75 +3
Tim Petrovic	37-39-75 +4
J.B. Holmes	36-40-76 +4
Shaun Micheel	34-42-76 +4
Aaron Baddeley	38-38-76 +4
Kevin Streelman	37-39-76 +4
Tim Clark	35-41-76 +4
Ryuji Imada	38-38-76 +4
Brian Davis	37-39-76 +4
Mark Shetfic	38-38-76 +4
Dave Love III	39-37-76 +4
Steve Marino	36-40-76 +6
Angel Cabrera	38-38-76 +6
Charles Howell III	39-39-77 +5
Mark Wilson	36-40-76 +6
Retief Goosen	38-39-77 +5
Jerry Kelly	40-37-77 +5
John Ed fors	38-39-77 +5
Chris Starkjohann	38-39-77 +5
Cameron Beckman	36-42-78 +6
Mike Smail	41-37-78 +6
Anthony Wall	38-40-78 +6
Brian Gay	38-40-78 +6
Brett Quigley	36-42-78 +6
Lee Rinker	38-40-78 +6
Darren Clarke	38-40-78 +6
Eric Lippert	39-39-78 +6
Brian Gaffney	40-39-79 +7
Jason Dufner	41-38-79 +7
Nick Dougherty	40-40-80 +8
Michael Campbell	38-42-80 +8
Robert Gaus	41-40-81 +9
Ryan Banzel	41-40-81 +9
Sam Arnold	42-39-81 +9
Adam Scott	42-40-82 +10
Steve Schneiter	39-43-82 +10
Mitch Lowe	41-43-84 +12
Will Mackenzie	40-44-84 +12
Kevin Roman	46-41-87 +15
John Daly	WD

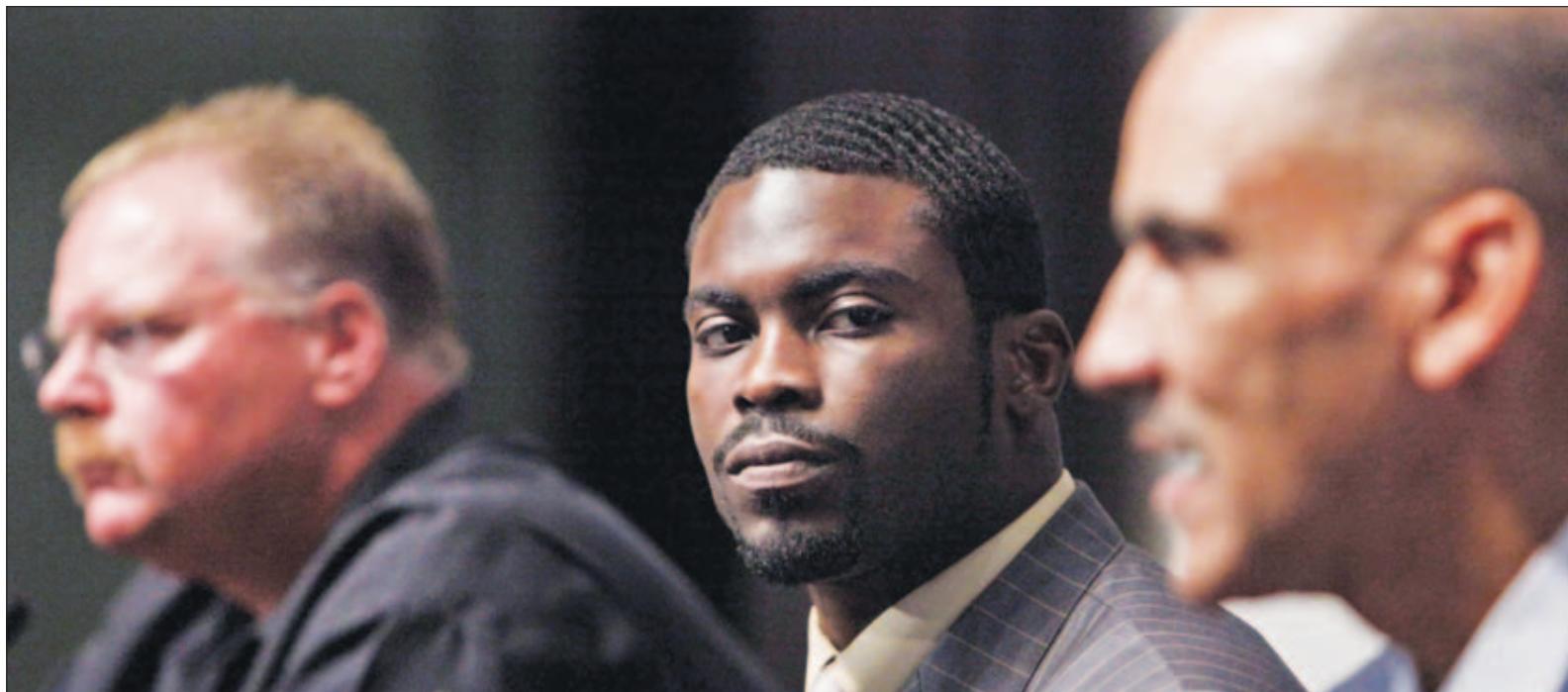
WD

SPORTS



**Return of Patriots QB
Brady overshadowed
by Eagles signing, Page 44**

NFL TRAINING CAMPS: MICHAEL VICK RETURNS



MATT ROURKE/AP

Quarterback Michael Vick, center, is flanked by Philadelphia Eagles coach Andy Reid, left, and former Indianapolis Colts coach and mentor Tony Dungy during a news conference Friday. Vick was introduced a day after signing a one-year deal with an option for a second year with the team. Given the quarterback's conviction and prison sentence for bankrolling a dogfighting ring, the move might be unpopular with some fans. "I understand to a certain degree, but our country is a country of second chances," Vick said. "I paid my debt to society. I spent two years in prison. ... That was a humbling experience. I can't explain how deeply hurt and how sorry I was."

Eagles gamble on disgraced star

Quarterback, seeking second chance after dogfighting conviction, is given one-year deal with option for second

By DAN GELSTON
The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — The remorseful Michael Vick won a second chance and a fresh start with the Philadelphia Eagles — and knows he won't be easily forgiven by fans.

"I know I've done some terrible things, made a horrible mistake. Now I want to be part of the solution and not the problem," Vick said Friday, referring to his conviction for his role in running a dogfighting ring.

Vick was introduced during a news conference a day after signing a one-year deal with an option for a second year with the Eagles.

Vick was flanked by Eagles coach Andy Reid and mentor Tony Dungy.

"I really got the sense he wanted to do some great things," Dungy said. "He wanted to be a positive role model for young people. He wanted to get back to his family."

Vick, 29, once the NFL's highest-paid player, has been out of action since 2006. The former Atlanta Falcons star served 18 months of a 23-month sentence in federal prison.

He also was suspended indefinitely by the NFL.

"For the life of me, I can't understand why I was involved in such pointless activity," Vick said. "Why did I risk so much at the pinnacle of my career?"

Vick said he felt remorse even as he was involved in dogfighting.

"There was a point in my life where I felt it was wrong and I knew it was wrong," he said. "To this day I have to live with that shame and that embarrassment."

Vick, who said he wants to be the "best ambassador to the NFL and community," said he hoped to play in a regular-season game soon. He asked for a second chance, but expected he won't be easily forgiven by fans or the public.

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Vick dogfighting conviction timeline on Page 46

Quick questions about Michael Vick

Don't the Eagles have a quarterback?

They have three: starter Donovan McNabb, backup Kevin Kolb, who strained a knee ligament this week, and A.J. Feeley. According to Eagles coach Andy Reid, McNabb's starting job is secure. McNabb seems OK with the signing, too. "I pretty much lobbied to get him here," the QB said Thursday night after the Eagles' exhibition loss to the New England Patriots.

If they don't need him at quarterback, how will the team use Vick?

Philly could line up the athletic Vick, who set an NFL record for quarterbacks with 1,039 rushing yards in 2006, at receiver, but the most likely scenario seems to be using him in a variation of the Wildcat offense popularized by the Miami Dolphins last season.

Can Vick still play after so much time away from the NFL?

Only time will tell, but the Eagles seem to think so, or at least they're willing to gamble on the former Pro Bowler regaining his form. "I will say, though, that he will contribute," Reid said. "You can ask defensive coordinators on other teams if they're worried about that."

Can Vick play right away?

As a condition of his reinstatement, Vick can play in the final two exhibition games, NFL commissioner Roger Goodell said. Once the season begins, Vick can participate in all team activities except for games. Goodell said he would consider Vick for full reinstatement by the sixth week of the season (Oct. 18).

Woman: Pitino arranged plot to keep me quiet **Page 39**

